

UNITED STATES: A Canadian on Death Row • SKATING: Sex and Sexual Preference

CANADA'S

WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Maclean's

NOVEMBER 30, 1998

The Patriot Game

A Bouchard victory would trigger a new countdown for Canada

Taking the pulse in the Quebec election



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From The Editor

The master of ambiguity



Quebecers have a very useful expression when someone is in the air and they think it should be ended—*fin le sujet*. That, alas, is not a sentiment that has marred the Quebec election campaign, which has offered up some of the most bizarre results in a province with a history of otherworldly campaigns. For starters, the incumbent is a former federal

Tory turned separatist who heads a government promising to have a referendum on separation only if he decides it can be won. And Premier Lévesque, Bouchard says that while he is negotiating the proper climate, he would negotiate a better deal for Quebec within Canada. Not surprisingly, his campaign slogan—"I'm confident" or "I believe"—stands in sharp contrast to his main campaign for the rest about the "insecurity of Ottawa."

The real thing is that francophone Quebecers, past masters at political ambiguity, seem to be buying this poppycock. They are continuing the great tradition of ignoring the enormous price to be paid by everyone involved. No one is more saddened by the emerging signs in the polls of a Bouchard victory than his chief opponent, Liberal Leader Jean Charest. "He's not happy with what Bouchard has been saying about him personally," says a friend of Charest, referring to nasty barbs by the premier that have painted Charest as the agent of slick Anglos and, an effigy, not a real Quebecer.

Charest, the former federal Tory leader is not backing down from his firm commitment to his cause. In fact, he is probably the most unyielding federalist to run under the Liberal banner in more than



Bouchard on the tastings, pecking poppycock

30 years. Now, he faces the hard reality of defeat, convinced that his only hope is to persuade Quebecers that a vote for Bouchard is a vote for the referendum that he does not want. "I'm not going to do it by coming up with a new argument," says one trusted adviser.

The consequences of a Charest defeat will be far-reaching. Bouchard is telling Quebecers that they are only voting to elect a government. The truth is his election would plunge Quebecers—and Canadians everywhere—into another

four years of guerrilla tactics. If he is elected, Bouchard will find that people in the rest of the country either are totally indifferent or totally angry. Either reaction will play poorly into his grand design of proving to Quebecers that the rest of Canada will never respect their aspirations.

One possible solution is for Ottawa to close the air and stage massive referendum in Quebec before Bouchard is ready. There could be, for once, a straight, clear question: separation, yes or no. No sovereignty association. No Canadian passport. No more dangling of Ottawa cash. If the federalists were to win a third referendum, the life of separation could be sealed for a generation or more. If the separatists won, it would confirm a pattern of ever-increasing support for independence over the past 16 years in various Quebec votes. Then, instead of listening to the endless blarney of Quebec politicians, everyone would have to confront the inevitable, the sorrowful task of dividing up the assets and getting on with life. *For a while*

Robert Levesque

Newsroom Notes:

GAUGING THE MOOD

For this week's cover on the Quebec election campaign, Maclean's Montreal Bureau Chief Brenda Branswell hit the ground running—traveling, among other places, to Shawinigan, the home town



Issue (left), Branswell, Walker, Wilson-Schick above left: portrait of a province

of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, to assess the views of Quebecers as they face the pivotal Nov. 30 vote. Augmenting her efforts were National Affairs Columnist Anthony Wilson-Smith and Ottawa Editor Bruce Wil-

son, both former Montrealers—and both veterans of the magazine's Montreal bureau. The result, with a cover illustration by noted Quebec political cartoonist Axlin, is a portrait of a province on the edge of the millennium, but still struggling with the issue that has dominated Quebec politics and the national agenda for decades: sovereignty. In her travels to three hill-tops, Branswell, a native of Sherbrooke—home of Liberal Leader Jean Charest—found that misty Quebec voters, including some sovereigntists, were in no hurry for another referendum. "But that doesn't mean opinions have changed," says Branswell. "They're just temporarily muted."

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Dr. Oliver, courage to make ethical decisions

Although the disease is different from thalassemia, many of the complications are similar, including the iron buildup. Dr. Oliver is a recognized leader in the field of children, and I trust her skills and ethics completely. When we last saw her, she was well beyond the call of duty to ensure our sons had all the required tests to check their iron levels, and gave us detailed information on all possible chelation options, including the new pill. As a parent, I want all doctors to have the courage to make the best medical and ethical decisions, based on the health needs of their patients, not on finances.

Lee Gae
Calgary

Hospital for Sick Children's CEO Michael Shekelle calls Dr. Oliver "this poor little innocent researcher." How arrogant! He says that Dr. Oliver and her group of supporters created the dispute to protest his management style and get him fired. How paranoid! He states: "We wouldn't sell our soul for Apolone." How hypocritical!

Serita Gossler
Greenfield, Ont.

I appreciated your articles on the process of approving drugs for distribution in Canada ("Pressure point"). Banned growth hormone was approved by the Food and Drug Administration in the United States and is not listed as an ingredient in milk because the manufacturer, Monsanto, cannot detect it in its tests. Milk producers who do not use St-H cannot advertise that fact because Monsanto threatens legal action because it damages their product. That has a very chilling effect on the marketplace and is presumably a sign of things to come.

Albert Smith,
South

Lynch-mob dilemma

Barbara Aniel seldom misses an occasion. As recent as that, she is a part of the international political-industrial elite ("Pursuing Pinochet would anger justice," Column, Nov. 10). Although she makes a superb attempt to balance her column (the image of Aniel going "to the barricades") to defend the legal national Pinochet Centre is certainly amusing, her agenda is characteristically transparent. She hardly pauses for breath between condemning "American" justice for former Chilean dictator Gen. Augusto Pinochet and stating that he would have deserved summary execution for

A queen and a horse

Why are we subsidizing the transport of a horse to England for the pleasure of Queen Elizabeth, a relic of a time past? Riding high in royal pomp, Queen Elizabeth, Nov. 30, is a time of need in our own country, not to mention Central America. I would like to see Canadian tax dollars spent in a fashion reflecting the nation's values of social awareness and lending a helping hand to those in need. In addition, could not Maclean's have asked questions regarding the costs of that little gift from us to, er, her, and whether we truly need an honorary commissioner of the RCMP in a country an ocean away?

Michael O'Grady
Saskatoon

the Nuremberg defendants, "without any pretence of due process." She states the short-lived Allende government for attempting to "crush the Chilean constitution" (or which Allende was richly and justly rewarded by you know who's friends) but neglects to mention that her buddies (those pesky olive balls) left Pinochet in a decidedly unconstitutional position for almost two decades. She repeats the government's excuses for being naughty and then tries to spread the blame for "evil" to (surprise, surprise) Castro, Gorbachev and (of all people) Nelson Mandela and the "barbarians" of the African National Congress. If Aniel cannot see the difference between Pinochet and Mandela, then she is blinded by her own agenda and beyond help.

Brian J. Wood,
Montreal

Normally, I admire Barbara Aniel's logic. However, in her column on punishing Pinochet, she endorses a Winston Churchill's view that the war criminals should have been "hunted down and shot," but condemns the action of a lynch mob because "the procedure is bulky and may be used against the innocent." What is the difference between these two repugnant notions? Am I missing something?

Christine Prince
Greenwich, Ont.

Barbara Aniel writes that I have "yet yet come to the realization that a nation pursued of peace and justice has proven to be the surest way to strife and bloodshed." History has taught me the contrary, that such a pursuit has led to the abolition of slavery, the establishment of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the recent approval of the international criminal

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Medical ethics

One important point was not mentioned in your very interesting and informative story on Dr. Nancy Oliver ("Whistle-blowing," Column, Nov. 30). The article refers to a confidentiality clause in Dr. Oliver's contract with Apolone restricting her right to disclose. But there is no question of the overriding question of public policy, under common law, any contractual clause is void to the extent that it offends public policy. Accordingly, to the extent that such a clause prohibits disclosure of information about a medicine that might reasonably be believed by a researcher to cause harm to the health of a person taking that medicine, the clause is void. Period.

Dore Scherman,
Executive professor of law,
Queen's University,
Kingston, Ont.

Two of my young sons are patients of Dr. Oliver at the Hospital for Sick Children. They have a bone-marrow failure disease known as Diamond Blackfan anemia.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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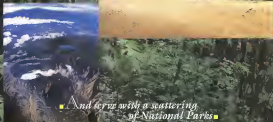
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The Mail

court, all of which have contributed, or will contribute, to a more just, peaceful and civilised society. Her statement that I and people like me are essentially lawless, that the only role we see for the justice system is to further our own sociopolitical agenda and that we would not make the rule of law simply nonsense. With respect to Pinochet, I don't know anyone supporting his presence, but who has suggested that the rule of law or any laws be set aside. We want law to be tried in accordance with the rule of law, which includes international treaties ratified by the relevant countries. Is Avelil suggesting that the British House of Lords or the Spanish courts would do otherwise? Furthermore, I would fully support the prosecution of any tyrant, from the left or right, who has committed similar crimes.

Barbara Vasel,
President, International Centre for Human Rights
and Democratic Development,
Montreal

In a case where most people take it for granted that something "black," Barbara Vasel makes a convincing case that it might be "white." Having considered her arguments, I still believe Pinochet's history is a dark enough grey to justify overlooking the technicalities he has constructed for himself.

Mark Coward,
St. Stephen, N.B.

Pride in Winnipeg

The Passages item (Nov. 8) announcing that Glen Murray had been elected mayor of Winnipeg said his sexual orientation was a major factor in his campaign. I would like the country to be aware that this was not really the case. In the weeks before the election, the fact that Murray was gay was the most talked-about issue in Winnipeg. Debates were raging in homes, churches, workplaces and social gatherings. If you turned on the radio to a talk show, hundreds of people were expressing their opinions. At every opportunity, his



The Road Ahead

Unite the right—defeat the Liberals

When I look up the word "democracy" in my dictionary, I find "Government by the people, directly or through elected representatives." It gives me a real sense of disillusionment, not only because the Chretien government has long since abandoned any such notion of democratic governing, but more importantly because Canadians still give him such a high approval rating. Are we to conclude that Canadians don't care that they have an arrogant, self-righteous, elitist, arrogant, a matter of pure deception on the government's part—that the people have been hoodwinked into believing the government acts on their behalf?

Is it possible this government truly believes it sold Canada's reaction to China on my behalf and that, together with all Canadians, wished to personally guarantee the \$1.5-billion loan for said reactors, that the \$2.85-billion contract to Bombardier Inc. without a competitive process was for my welfare, that government's continued refusal to reform or abolish the Senate was for the benefit of Canadians, that the \$5.7 billion worth of grants to business and other levels of government, and the \$4.1 billion worth of loans authorized to industry in the past 36 years—of which only \$494 million has thus far been repaid—were for the direct benefit of the people, that the continued use of the ostrich technique to ignore the brain drain to the United States was to the benefit of the people, that cancelling the Somalia inquiry was beneficial to Canada's name on the world stage?

And what about Jean Chretien's election Red Book promise to "replace the GST

with a system that is fairer to consumers (and) minimizes disruption to small business"? Do Canadians enjoy being lied to? And now we have the APFC paper spraying money from, where it appears that the government again reacted on our behalf to quash a fundamental Canadian right of freedom of assembly.

The most unfortunate factor of these countless times is that we have no alternative party sitting in the House of Commons. And now we have the APFC paper spraying money from, where it appears that the government again reacted on our behalf to quash a fundamental Canadian right of freedom of assembly.

And maybe this is why we have become complacent about our politics. We simply do not envision any alternative to the Liberals, and so we throw up our hands in disgust and walk away from the whole thing. Chretien and his cronies must be rubbing their hands in glee, knowing they have Canadians exactly where they want them. We must not give up hope, however. With Joe Clark as the leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, it will be up to Canadians to encourage him to rethink his stand on sitting in some fashion with Reform. His party—as it currently exists—will most likely never form another government in this country. The sooner he acknowledges that fact, the better his party and Reform can begin building a more alternative for all Canadians. An alternative we desperately need if we are to have "government by the people."

Pat Mulaney,
Ottawa

The Road Ahead invites readers to advance quality positions in Canada's political, social and economic priorities. Detailed information may be obtained at specific offices or appear in an electronic bulletin board.

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THE MAIL

opponent, Peter Kaufman, and his supporters were mentioning Kaufman's strong family background and his devoted wife. Although the mainstream media never stated that Murray's homosexuality would be detrimental to Winnipeg, many religious and other groups did. The fact that Murray is a homosexual was very much an issue in this election. Common sense prevailed, however. I can honestly say that I have never been more proud to live in Winnipeg than when I heard that Glen Murray was elected our new mayor.

Trish Santelmy,
Winnipeg

sewer the oil to seep in Canada's aquifers have kept this open secret from becoming a national disgrace. The truth is that our Canadian Forces now face a high risk of increased casualties and decreased probability of success in meeting their commitments at home and abroad. There are not enough troops, and the equipment is antiquated and dangerous to use.

J. Carl Bernhardt,
Brockton, B.C.

Honor roll nominees

Dr. John Butt, chief medical executive for Nova Scotia, deserves to be on your Honor Roll. His name was probably unknown to most Canadians, indeed most Nova Scotians, until the aftermath of the tragic Seaquest Flight 111 crash off Peggy's Cove. Through television and radio interviews, Dr. Butt has shown himself to be highly professional as well as tactical, compassionate and empathetic towards the families at the wreckage. He and his staff have labored long and hard, facing more barriers than most of us can even imagine.

Susan Grealy,
Newmarket, N.S.

I would like to nominate Dr. Alan Bernstein for inclusion in your 10th annual Honor Roll. Dr. Bernstein is director of the world-renowned Stempel Laboratory Research Institute at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto and one of Canada's best-known and most respected biomedical scientists. His personal research has laid the molecular groundwork for much of our understanding of cancer, embryonic development, formation of the blood system and the potential of gene therapy. In addition, Dr. Bernstein is outstanding, in my belief, unique, in his contribution to establishing and maintaining the scientific enterprise both in Canada and around the world.

Anthony J. Poonen,
Toronto

'Living for money'

The excerpt from Peter C. Newman's book *79 men* leaves little doubt about big business's far-reaching influence on Canadian policy ("Times," Cover, Nov. 20). The Liberals' flip-flop on cutting health and education, on keeping free trade, on putting human rights in the backseat and on maintaining high interest rates was the result of the influence of big business's chief lobbyist on the Prime Minister, according to New-

man. The question is, why? While the largest corporations play an important economic role, following their agenda has led to eight years of high unemployment, a widening gap between the rich and the rest, falling real incomes to 1986 levels for the average Canadian family, and health and education systems starved for money. If this is what you get for listening to the Business Council on National Issues, you would think it might dawn on the governing Liberals that they could do better alone.

Robert White,
President, Canadian Labour Congress
Ottawa

Today, I was reading a letter from a friend in Cuba who was telling me about his ratings of rice and beans. He wrote: "I don't know what good food is since the early 1980s and I have craved from my mind the word 'breadfruit' and sometimes I hope for the other two, 'hank' and 'dinner'." Later in the evening, I picked up my copy of *Medicine* on the "Etiology"—Peter Nygard and his \$12-million house with its electric carts to drive guests to their bedrooms and his "trying to get back to nature" and Conrad Black and his "down in the dumps" story. Poor Jesus Christ, and his dealings with the Business Council on National Issues surely he was I have to worry about his next break-

fast after visiting the prime minister's clinic. How can the three stick at night when half the world goes hungry? How can they live for money when so many live in misery?

Bob Lucas,
Lebanon City, Md.

Pugilism and pucks

"Haps on ice" (Cover, Nov. 26) presented a superb yet disturbing expose on the unorthodox state of ice hockey in North America. So initially a commercial imperative in an expanded U.S. market, the traditional skill, speed and competitiveness of the greatest game in the world have been subordinated by gratuitous violence. There is something terribly perverse about a scenario in which the hands of critics and gladiators portrayed in your article are permitted to compete in the same arena with the likes of Steve Yerrum, Paul Karger and Mike Leeman. Is this what a civilized society aspires to? The NHL and its associated minor leagues across North America would be well advised to heed the voice of noted demagogues before arguing about with further expansion. The baby boomers, who are the largest segment of North America society, are now reaching their

50s and loudly and clearly expressing a preference for quality over quantity—good fitness and excitement, not mere teams and a watered-down product. Those among us who have been serious hockey fans over the years are fed up with the barbarism and want to see a more effort to play close in change to get the hockey back into hockey, if we are expected to remain loyal fans.

B. K. Ross,
Denver, Colo.

I don't want to see a fight because the game is slow or my team is losing, but if someone "rums" Cops (Toronto Maple Leafs goalie Curtis Joseph) or "stinks" (near forward) Matt Szabo, then the closest player, not just the D-man, had better drop the gloves, no excuses accepted. And if Bob Levin doesn't want to see a good score, then I suggest he stick to the golf channel ("Fight night in Canada" series in the press), Colson, Nov. 26. Does he know who Marty McSorley is? The Great One does. Wayne Gretzky set many records with Marty ready to pound on anyone who even looked at Gretzky sideways. It's kind of funny how all the intellectuals out there forget that delicate balance of hockey. You can score a lot more goals if you know your back (and head) is protected. Toronto Maple Leafs general manager Ken Dryden, who unfortunately

Healthy Bites

MILK AND ASTHMA DO MIX



Yoghurt is so much more than just a snack. For more than 2% of adult asthma cases are due to its allergic reaction as food, including with milk products.

Despite a lack of scientific evidence to support it, the myth persists that milk increases respiratory distress. Some asthma sufferers go so far as to avoid milk products to avoid milk products thinking that they exacerbate asthma symptoms. A double-blind study recently published in the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* challenged asthmatic adults with a glass of cow's milk and a similar non-dairy beverage. They did not find that dairy products induced asthma, even in subjects who firmly believed dairy consumption worsened their symptoms. The researchers recommended that asthmatic individuals refrain from unnecessary restricting their dairy intake since doing so could increase their risk of developing nutritional deficiencies and osteoporosis.

More health benefits of yogurt

Have you noticed terms such as *L. acidophilus*, *L. casei* or *Bifidus* on some yogurt labels? These milk-fermenting bacteria added to yogurt are under study for health benefits beyond the nutrients yogurt provides. For example, the consumption of *L. acidophilus* may reduce the gastrointestinal side effects sometimes associated with antibiotic treatment. According to preliminary studies, its regular consumption may also offer protection against breast cancer.

Animal studies also suggest that *L. casei* and *Bifidus* each may decrease the risk of colon cancer. Bear in mind these are only preliminary studies, but they are interesting.



Camouflaging eating disorders

While vegetarianism can be healthy, it can also be a creative cover-up used by teenagers to hide an eating disorder or excessive weight concerns. According to a recent study at the University of Minnesota, vegetarian adolescents were almost twice as likely to engage in frequent dieting, four times as likely to induce vomiting, and eight times as likely to abuse laxatives as nonvegetarians. These teens also failed to eat enough foods rich in protein, iron, zinc and calcium. Parents should be aware that properly practiced vegetarianism can be healthy, but sometimes teens may adopt an inappropriate form (like just eating salads and vegetables) in order to cover up an eating disorder.

THE MAIL

runs my team, doesn't want fighting in hockey, but he sure as hell pays Dora plenty of cash to make sure that nobody takes a shot at Standa.

General Practitioner
Dartmouth, N.S.

As a concerned physician, I feel that the true long-term effects of repeated head injuries are not fully appreciated by players or managers. The tragic case of former boxer Mohammed Ali is a long testimony of the danger of this type of insult to the human brain. Videos of Ali during the various stages of his life should be made mandatory viewing for all hockey players and those who formulate the rules for professional hockey.

Dr. C. R. Davis,
Barry's Bay, Ont.

Right turn south

While I was reading "Caught in the backseat" (World, Nov. 19), I couldn't help but notice a parallel between the events happening within the Republican party and the so-called right here in Canada. "The Republicans will be preoccupied by the fight among disparate factions to elect a course after Gingrich." Read: some Conservatives and Reformers are and will soon be increasingly preoccupied by such a fight. "The [Republican] party must combine its conservative message with more flexible tactics." Which party might have to do that in Canada? Hint: most of its power base is in the West.

Lacuna R. Duggan,
St. Albert, Alta.

The chocolate lobby

Your tale about the Canadian Automobile Dealers Association using chocolate cars to draw its lobby efforts (Fictional Confessions, "Gossiping Notes, Nov. 19) seems like a rather silly bit of whimsy. If only it were so. After five years of staging Halloween parties for MPs and MPs, our Halloween event confirms that politicians and Parliament Hill staff definitely like too candy. But the Confectionery Manufacturers Association of Canada is still waiting for MPs to remove the unfair GST on confectionery (for example, chocolate-covered wafers "cookies" are GST-free at the grocery store, but just across the aisle a package of chocolate-covered wafers "confectionery" still gets hit with the bad GST). If we could convince everyone that lobbying by chocolate is the way to go, it might help offset the competitive disadvantage of the GST policy.

Carol Anika,
President, Confectionery Manufacturers
Association of Canada
Toronto

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Waking up clumsy!

According to an Australian study published in *Nature*, a sleepless night can impair hand-eye coordination the following morning as effectively as being legally drunk. The investigators deprived 40 people of sleep for 28 hours and found that, although their performance did improve somewhat as the day wore on, it did not return to normal.



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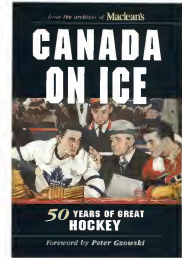
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— From the Foreword by Peter Gzowski

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Another View



Charles Gordon

Why satire needs fresh material

In the CBC's new Rick Mercer vehicle, *Mosh in Canada*, an actress says to an executive: "I want to be in a good show." He replies: "It's television. There are no good shows." It's a funny line, one of many in the series, and it's typical of the fine television now taking off the air — at least when it thinks someone might be watching. The idea isn't all that new; it goes back at least as far as *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*. More recently, it surfaced with a vengeance on *The Larry Sanders Show*, which is thought to have inspired Ken Finkleman's very funny *The Newsroom* and its successor, *News Town*.

What these programs have in common is their relentlessly grim view of human nature. Actors are stupid and venal, executives are conceited and vain, reporters lie, directors manipulate, studios lie in phony, grief is sentimentality, misanthropes are far dirtier on and, it goes without saying, politicians are fools. We never the easy, fun turns, be it a news event or a feature film, the results are not to be trusted. "Secretly I was hoping for the actor," says a character in *News Town*, after the Manitoba lawmakers had started, taking sips of the drama out of the nightly news. "Well, that's what news is all about," replies the news producer.

At one point, these were subversive statements: the necessary stuff of satire. Now, the belated pomposity has been picked so often and so expertly that the stuff of satire is in danger of becoming just conventional wisdom. These days, to voice the point that television is corrupt and news is manipulative is merely to stand beside the barrel, rifle at hand, calling "Bring me more fish."

The pleasant shock of good satire is to see people and events portrayed in an unexpected way, contrary to expectations. There is a moment like that in the last *Made in Canada* episode of the series, as a woman sits on the set of an *Anne of Green Gables* program. The actress, in her *Anne* costume and *Anne* hairdo, is smoking a cigarette and complaining in earthy, 20th century terms about the quality of refreshments she gets to do. That comes out of nowhere and is inspired. To turn the camera back to scheming studio executives scheming about other's daughters is as soft as cheese. The satire has needed so well that it causes studio executives seduce each other's daughters. Of course reporters lie and producers manipulate and politicians are fools and actors are stupid. We've seen it on TV.

Suddenly, we are in need of a new satire. The old satire is the new old story. The new satire has to challenge it and the cause is clear: it will be necessary to reveal the virtues concealed behind the facade of femininity. As with all cutting-edge art, the audience would sit there and be shocked to recognize what was going on. Fortunately, an age-old television device, the laugh track, is available.

REPORTER: My paper will carry a report tomorrow that you

will be telling the truth about your campaign contributions. I am offering you the opportunity now to respond.

(LAUGH TRACK: Light chuckle.)

POLITICIAN: I would offer you a bribe except that I never offer bribes and you would never accept one.

(LAUGH TRACK: Expectant laughter.)

REPORTER: My story will say that there were no irregularities whatsoever.

(LAUGH TRACK: Loud guffaw.)

POLITICIAN: I never doubted that you would get it right.

(LAUGH TRACK: Howls of laughter and applause.)

The joke in the new satire has to be the discovery of a newswoman with a commitment to journalism, a newswoman committed to journalism, a newswoman who wants the stories to respect the facts, an actor who knows his craft.

The new satire would turn over rocks and unearth true friendships, he would peek through windows and reveal — for all to see — monogamy. He would stick Ottawa's back corridors and discover honest, hardworking politicians.

It will take some getting used to. The public may have difficulty accepting the notion that all everyone is rotten. But eventually, new comic conventions will arise — the husband coming home unexpectedly to find his wife without another man, the boss receiving an anonymous e-mail showing that his loyal subordinate is not kidding him in the lunch-room and his wife will come to accept them. They will laugh when the producer refuses to cast his girlfriend in his new movie. "I can't do that," he will say, while the laugh track giggles relentlessly, "it would be a conflict of interest."

They will bow when people turn up sober at the awards ceremony, when the audience goes to a dinner to play along with the host's laughter, when the member of Parliament tells the truth about his educational achievements. "I took three years of physics, then dropped out to work for an oil company and I never finished my degree. It says all that in my campaign literature."

(LAUGH TRACK: Hysterical cackles.)

As is any art form, there will need to be a strain, a new breed of them. This poses a problem, because almost all professions have been used as illustrations of corruption in word and deed — politicians, parasites, lawyers, doctors, anybody associated with shrew business. So it may be time for the cooked deities, the corrupt new, the greedy transience player, the double-dealing serbolic instructor, the promiscuous estate planner, the cocaine-fueled showman. What if our honest TV producer and his beautiful assistant, with whom he is not also going, meet up with the gawking-dazzled church organist and her husband, the yawning puppeteer.

Talk about entertainment! Eventually, of course, it will become a cliché.

Opening NOTES

Edited by TANYA DAVIES

Bankrolling history

The British merchant bank N. M. Rothschild & Sons Ltd. has remained quietly in the background around 200 years of British history. But, on occasion, the company has played a crucial role—and it has the evidence to prove it. One such artifact is the original receipt for the 1815 Battle of Waterloo. According to Sir Evelyn de Rothschild, chairman of the British merchant bank N. M. Rothschild & Sons Ltd., his ancestor financed Wellington's army in the battle against Napoleon. "In those days, you paid them [the army] in notes," Rothschild told *Maclean's*. "And if you didn't pay them on the Friday they fought on the other side on the Monday."

The receipt is just one item from the family archives, which were on display in London last spring to celebrate two centuries of the Rothschild bank in England. "We decided, or

my colleagues but he & me, that we should do something," says Rothschild. "Then they said 'Why don't you have a working exhibit too?' So we have altered it, and I think it's rather well done." The *Life* and *Times* of N. M. Rothschild, 1771-1836 opened at Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum Nov. 12. The exhibit contains portraits of various family members—including Nathan Mayer, who co-erred the British bank—books, engravings and other mementos. "It goes through the moments we're proud of," says Rothschild. "My great-grandfather [Evelyn] was the first Jewish member of Parliament. It took three tries to get in because they wouldn't allow him admission on the Oath Testament."



Rothschild, Lt.-Gen. Micky Weizman, Mayer (seated), cousin

CAPITAL CONFIDENTIAL

Power tends to make politicians sure—sometimes too sure—of themselves. But early signs suggest that Robert Chisholm, leader of Nova Scotia's New Democratic, would be a premier willing to take plenty of advice if his party toppled Russell MacLellan's Liberal minority government. Chisholm routinely seeks the counsel of his old boss, federal NDP Leader Alexa McLeod. And he's also turned to his former mentor for guidance to another big name: New Democrat from Nova Scotia—former Saskatchewan premier Allan Rock, who was born in Bridgewater, N.S., and whose son, Hugh, happens to be McLeod's press secretary.

Blakeney and his wife spend a month every summer at their cottage



Chisholm: taking advice from an NDP authority

in Petite Rivière, just south of the birthplace. He and Chisholm first met in the summer of 1987 and hit it off immediately. After Chisholm and his party won a stunning 39 of 52 seats in the March 24 election, Blakeney played a pivotal role advising the NDP transition into. Nowadays, the pair speak regularly. And Blakeney has helped the Nova Scotia leader forge policy and strategy on a variety of issues—in clarifying the best way to attack the Liberal government's controversial public-private partnership approach to building new schools. "He brings so many things to the table," says Chisholm. "Not the least of which is that Blakeney knows what it is like to sit in the premier's chair—it's better than it seems to experience."

EMPORIUM

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 87 per cent of the world's turkeys are found in the following 10 countries (number of turkeys in 1997, in millions):

1. United States	88	6. Brazil	6
2. France	38	7. Canada	6.8
3. Italy	21.5	8. Portugal	5.4
4. Britain	22.4	9. Israel	4
5. Germany	6.8	10. Mexico	3.8

World Total: 232.4

GOLDFARB POLL

When 1,400 adult Canadians were asked if they thought most people can't be trusted, the younger the respondents, the more suspicious they were. Response to the question, by percentage:

	Under 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Agree	50	52	59	58	63	69
Disagree	50	48	41	42	37	31

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AS IT SOUNDS.



Jones Konihowski in 1970 and now (above): her victory inspired other females to compete

DOUBLE TAKE

Diane Jones Konihowski

At the climax of the 1978 Commonwealth Games in Edmonton, thousands of spectators stood and cheered as Saskatchewan native Diane Jones Konihowski powered her way to a new world record and a gold medal, in the pentathlon—a grueling competition combining shot put, long jump, high jump, 100 m hurdles and 800 m run. Twenty years later, the 47-year-old is proud that her success encouraged other young women to compete in sports. “I’ve been surprised by how many women remember my career,” she says. “I guess there were few athletic women role models to admire in the Seventies.”

Sports are still a major part of Jones Konihowski’s life. She is now president of marketing for the National Sport Centre-Calgary, where elite athletes train. And she sits on the board of directors at the Canadian Olympic Association and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport. “I just love what I do,” she says. “It’s not something you do to earn a lot of money, but I wouldn’t have it any other way.” When the issue of the 1988 Moscow Olympics is raised, Jones Konihowski still expresses bitterness about Canada’s decision to boycott the games—which was initiated by the U.S. due to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan—where she was one of the top-ranked pentathletes. “It was wrong for sport, and it hurt me,” she says. “I never received an Olympic gold medal, and nothing political was achieved.”

Jones Konihowski has been married for 23 years to former Edmonton Eskimos wide receiver John Konihowski, now a business owner who provides sports surfaces to athletic facilities. They have two daughters, 16 and 10, whose their mother describes as “gifted” for sports. And Jones Konihowski is prepared for the next Olympics. In April, she was appointed chief of mission for the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. “Now that was a real honor,” she says. “I can’t wait.”

LUKE PISHIN

BEST-SELLERS

FICTION

1. *The Love of a Good Woman*, Alice LaPlante (1)
2. *After the War*, Tim Wirth
3. *Home from the Yagi Doh*, David Almond
4. *A Change for Ben*, Gail Anderson Dargatzis (2)
5. *The Fishermen*, Michael Ondaatje (2)
6. *The River*, Peter Brown
7. *The River*, Peter Brown
8. *The River*, Peter Brown
9. *The River*, Peter Brown
10. *The River*, Peter Brown

NONFICTION

1. *Yoda*, Peter C. Newman (2)
2. *Yoda*, Peter C. Newman (2)
3. *Yoda*, Peter C. Newman (2)
4. *Yoda*, Peter C. Newman (2)
5. *Yoda*, Peter C. Newman (2)
6. *Yoda*, Peter C. Newman (2)
7. *Yoda*, Peter C. Newman (2)
8. *Yoda*, Peter C. Newman (2)
9. *Yoda*, Peter C. Newman (2)
10. *Yoda*, Peter C. Newman (2)

Biology 101

The plants and animals that inhabit Canadian biologist A. K. Gendron's book, *Hungry Habitat: The Story of a Natural Place* (Cormack) live in a fictional North American deciduous forest. Gendron offers a guided tour of the habitat in which readers are introduced to plants, animals, fungi and other life forms.



Passages

AWARDED: The 1996 Governor General's Literary Awards for English language to *David Adams Richards* (*Letters on the Water: A Fisherman's Life on the Miramichi*) for non-fiction. *Diane Schoemperlen* (*Portraits of Dandelion*) for fiction (page 88). *Stephanie Bolster* (*White Stone: The Alice Poet for poetry*). *Dynell Sears* (*Marion Dost*) for drama. *Shelia Fischman* (*Liberty and Me*) for translation. *Janet Lynn* (*The Hollow Tree*) for children's text, and *Katy MacDonald Denton* (*A Child's Message of Maryam*) for children's illustration, in Ottawa.



Adams Richards

DIED: Film-maker Alan Pakula, 70, in a car accident near New York City. Pakula is best known for directing *AI: The President's Man*, which won the Academy Award in 1976.

DIED: Canadian editor and writer Jan Connor, 39, of a heart attack, in Toronto.

AWARDED: To Saskatchewan writer Sharon Butala, 58, the \$10,000 Manan Engel Award for literature, in Toronto.

MARRIED: Anchor of *The National*, Peter Mansbridge, 50, and actress Cynthia Dale, 38, in Montreal, P.E.I.

MARRIED: Montreal Basketball Association head boy Dennis Rodman, 37, and Playboy model-turned-actress Carmen Electra, 26, in Las Vegas.

AWARDED: To Charlotte golfer Lori Kwan, 33, the 1996 LPGA Heather Farr prize, in Daytona Beach, Fla.

HONORED: Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Roger Clemens, 36, with the American League's Cy Young Award, making him the first pitcher to win five such prizes and Chicago Cubs outfielder *Sam Rice*, 30, as the National League's most valuable player.

HONORED: Montreal Alouettes running back Mike Pringle, 31, as the Canadian Football League's outstanding player.

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THE PATRIOT GAME

BY ANTHONY WILSON SMITH

In the end of Robert Bourassa's life, he remarked that Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard would have been a "seemly adversary" for him—and that his great regret was that they never faced each other in an election. One afternoon, two months before his death from cancer in 1995, he spent more than an hour discussing Bouchard, often and in biting terms. Bourassa liked to sit at home, turn on the television, and watch Bouchard debate in the national assembly. The two men, who lived near each other in the upscale Montreal suburb of Outremont, often talked on the telephone. "He is," Bourassa said with a laugh, "perhaps the only politician as capable as me at leaving every option open."

Bourassa had found his other ego—someone else who could turn a black-and-white decision over whether Quebec should stay in Canada into a grey, complex debate rife with ambiguity on all sides. As leader of the Quebec Liberals, Bourassa was fearful of elections by downplaying his commitment to federalism enough to reel in his opponents and secure seemingly certain victory. Now, in Quebec's Nov. 30 election, Bouchard appears poised to do the same from the other side of Quebec's constitu-

A DIFFERENT NON-SET Feuding old Bouras (left) and Charvet (center)

tion. "I am optimistic," he says, "that we will win." But in his partisan gatherings, he describes a constitutional accommodation that is a sort of sovereignty lie, in which Quebec remains in partnership with Canada, keeps economic ties, perhaps even joint citizenship. A referendum, he adds cautiously, will happen only when—meaning if—victory seems certain.

Such promises are impossible to guarantee, undeniably, but in electoral terms, they work. One measure of Bouchard's success, in every provincial and federal vote since 1980 (the year of the collapse of the Meech Lake constitutional accord), francophone voters have sided to the right: on the right, Bouchard played a key role in each campaign. If present trends hold out Nov. 30, Bouchard's PQ will easily win a majority of the provincial assembly's 125 seats. But such victory would be tainted by the fact that the Liberals will almost certainly maintain their dominance in Montreal, where they are bolstered by a heavy concentration of anglophones and other non-francophones. The island of Montreal, with almost 2.5 million people, holds about a third of Quebec's population—but fewer than a quarter of the national assembly's seats.

A PQ victory, if it comes, will mark a personality-driven ending to the Liberal-Leslie Jean Charvet—the first technocratic, charismatic leader the Liberals have had since Jean Lesage stepped down in 1970. Charvet has been the best hope of federalists, who argue that their cause has lost ground in Quebec since Pierre Trudeau's retirement in 1984 because they lacked a passionate, eloquent and unapologetic federalist throughout to rival them. Now, they have one—but for how much longer? If the Liberals lose too badly—winning, say, less than 45 seats, 30 percent of the vote—Charvet's friends muse that he may step down from a job in which he has seldom looked comfortable since he succeeded his last opponent, "And then," say some veteran Liberal organizers in disputed zones, "where will we find the next white knight to ride to our rescue?"

A second round PQ victory would increase the likelihood of a referendum some time in 1999 to capitalise on the demoralisation in the federalist camp. And near the end of a cruddy, polemic campaign on all sides, the Liberals' best hope is Bouchard's refusal to back away from holding another vote, despite the dismay of many Quebecers at the prospect. One poll showed that even among people describing themselves as sovereigntists, 40 per cent do not want a referendum in the next mandate.

The firm campaign has also highlighted how much the political mood in Quebec differs from that of the rest of the country. Outside Quebec, it is a given that there is no point trying to amend the Constitution with a sovereignty government that has no interest in



NO. 1 (CHRISTIAN LEVY)

doing so. And Bouchard will not attend any interprovincial meetings but if he is in power. That means that the Constitution remains unchanged while the PQ is in power. But even though polls show that a majority of Quebecers reject the status quo, let alone consider "renewed federalism" favorable to sovereignty, other surveys indicate that most consider Bouchard the politician best able to represent their interests to the rest of the country. In short, even though they dislike their constitutional situation, the leader Quebecers trust most is the one least likely to try their preferred option for change.

That is only one reason why the Quebec debate seems increasingly alien to the rest of the country. Both federalism and sovereignty have often complicated that since 1982, when the federal government and nine other provinces signed an agreement to patriate the constitution from Great Britain without Quebec's assent, the province is no longer a "full partner" within the federation. But these days, that situation equally unites many Quebecers rarely, because it reflects their ambivalent relationship with the rest of the country. As long as the province is not a signatory to the Constitution, it stays one foot in and one out of Canada. That puts Quebec in a comfortable position to demand that the rest of the country. But Quebec federalists have two entirely different debates in and outside the province: they are accused by Canadians as either protectors of making for too many new constitutional powers—and in their home province of being prepared to settle for too little. That is why it is so astonishing to many Canadians that Bouchard can tell

voters that an independent Quebec would quickly negotiate new economic arrangements with what would remain of Canada.

Either way, the results on Nov. 30 will have effects that reverberate across the national political spectrum. Few people outside the province believe the chances about the angustia fallout from another PQ victory. Bewildered concern about Canada's political stability would continue to drive down the value of the dollar on international markets, desert Ottawa's energy from other projects, and focus attention on the policy area where Charvet is weakest—his handling of the unity issue. As antipathy grows towards Quebec because of its sovereignty stance, pressure would build to take a tough line against the province. That would feed Bouchard's popularity in Quebec, and put pressure on Charvet—who is vilified by nationalists and many members of the media in his home province—to step down before another referendum. On the other hand, if Charvet manages an upset, Bouchard would be likely to quit politics—and the sovereignty movement would lose its most compelling spokesman.

In fact, both sides are running out of steam, and almost everyone agrees that the nation's political agenda since the PQ was first elected 20 years ago. Bouchard's predecessor, Jacques Parson, once quipped that Quebec has, in effect, two artificial governments—one in Ottawa, the other in Quebec City—always in deadlock. It is, and Canada, like "a piece of paper torn halfway around you patch it together or you keep on tearing." But either option demands a clear, decisive choice—and there is little evidence that Quebecers are prepared to make that. □

COUNTDOWN FOR CANADA

The PQ plays to both federalists and sovereigntists

BY BRENDA BRANSWELL AND BRUCE WALLACE

On the crisp wintry morning, the televised leaders debate that was supposed to settle the Quebec election campaign, Quebec Liberal leader Jean Charest took his remaining hopes home to the corner of Quebec's Eastern Townships. Before a squeaked-in luncheon crowd of 250 at the University of Sherbrooke, with the swapped times from last January's ice storm visible through windows overlooking the surrounding hills, Charest stood at a podium and spoke quietly

about how he had been shaped by the place where he grew up. As a teenager, he had worked just down the hill in the theatre local office and been inspired by the entertainers who came to perform at the small city university. It was here, too, that Charest studied law with his wife, Michèle—"my first debating partner," he told the crowd with a husband's self-deprecating smile. And he said it was in the Eastern Townships, where French and English federalists and sovereigntists have managed to avoid serious confrontation, that he absorbed the local values that still define him: "Tolerance, respect, diversity, hard work, harmony."

These were the very characteristics that Charest's supporters thought would be so welcome in Quebec politics when they begged him to assume the leadership of the provincial Liberal party last April. It seemed unreasonable: the federal Tory leader would trade his long-cherished dream of becoming prime minister of Canada for as even higher calling: to slay the separatist Parti Québécois and its neo-mythical leader, Lucien Bouchard. In doing so, he could gut Quebec's perpetual debate about its constitutional future in a blow for a few years at best. But Charest himself knew it would never

be that easy. The fundamental insecurity that comes with being an embattled minority still defines Quebec's political culture, he warned those who weren't too busy drinking beer in the Maple Leaf and wishing Ben Goddard an ion mission. To associates, he confided he "would be expected to prove I can be as good a defender of Quebec as Lacus."

So far, with the last weeks of the campaign bringing running out, appearances suggest he has failed. For many

asking him, Charest's familiarity and ease with the rest of Canada has been a point of suspicion for many Quebecers



THE TRUST FACTOR: Charest (left) and his Liberals have a bold economic platform, but when it comes to detracting the province's interests against Ottawa, he has to win over voters such as Sherbrooke's Boucher (right)

They know he was born in the province, but they want to know if his ideas are a good fit for Quebec. The doubts penetrate beyond Bouchard's early campaign charge shot that Charest "does not like Quebec." The crack was widely construed as a negligible error, and Charest's tepid response showed a strategic intelligence in challenge Bouchard directly over the shot.

But Charest's concrete plan, with its five-point orientation, was denied in foreign—in this case Ontario—economies that would contaminate the "Quebec model" of social democracy. Even his pledge to launch the prospect of a referendum if elected—essentially the guarantee of constitutional peace that Quebecers so overwhelmingly tell pollsters they want—has been vulnerable to Bouchard's attacks. By contending Quebec would be weakened should the referendum arrow be missed from its arsenal, the promise has route the idea of suspending a referendum sound like unilateral disarmament in the midst of the Cold War.

Critics contend many of Charest's wounds are self-inflicted. He used to ridicule much of the Parti Québécois's power-hungry agenda in history was seen as a reckless repudiation of one of the province's most glorious accomplishments. Quebec's scrappy media pack anchored their

rebukes and duly noted each time Charest succumbed to temptation on the minutiae of local issues. And there have been hard questions about the wisdom of the title of Charest's hurriedly produced autobiography, *I Chose Quebec*. It provoked Marie Desautels, the tough leader of the third party entering the election, Action démocratique, to suggest during the leaders debate that the title implied "there was another choice."

So, with the campaign almost over, Charest found himself forced to stand before his friends, in his home town, and assert he could be trusted to protect Quebec's interests. "I am proud of being from Sherbrooke, and proud of being from Quebec. That doesn't diminish when I go outside Quebec's borders," he said, his voice rising. He reminded them he had followed Quebec's demand for status as a distinct society while in federal politics—even though it cost him politically in other parts of Canada. "I've always been consistent in my political career," he said. "My convictions haven't changed. Whatever the circumstances, whatever the issue, whatever the occasion, I will always defend what is in my heart and guts. And I will always defend the interests of Quebec."

That display of Charest's openness brought the Sherbrooke crowd to its feet, cheering his name. But it is late in the

COVER A majority opposes another referendum

time to be trying to convince Quebecers there are no risks in taking a poll on the new cover to provincial politics. The polls suggest voters are telling Chartrand he must pay his dues in Quebec politics. An example of the hesitations he faces? The Liberals won the first half of the campaign, but because the PQ's dossier, \$2 billion cuts to health care. The cutbacks sparked controversies over hospital closures, long waits for surgery and emergency-room overcrowding. The Liberals saw the situation as their first real opportunity to scrape some of the Telford coating off Bourcheid—and seemed to catch a break when a leaked report suggested lower-income Quebecers were getting sicker—even dying—because they were no longer eligible for free prescription drugs. Bourcheid's poll numbers went up anyway.

PQ MNA David Cléche knows he is up against an unsympathetic audience. Challenging a telephone advice line, Cléche faces a crowd filled with women eager to play hussy. The permanent tourism minister is a bit of a pick line. He is in a Vermont, one of those affiliated New England ridings registered as crucial for the Liberals in 1995. Cléche first meets questions. Almost all of those who speak out are critical of the health-care system. One woman complains that she has been waiting eight months for an appointment with an ophthalmologist. Cléche insists the PQ's health-care reform was necessary because "I don't think that there have been difficult cases," he says. But, he insists, "most people are very satisfied with the care."

A razzle of disapproval rolls down the stage tables. But the voters are bawled when Gaetan Fossat, a 60-year-old, stands up and informs Cléche that she has an eye because her surgery was delayed three times. "When you say that people are satisfied, I don't know where you're finding them," declares Fossat. A former nurse, she blames her situation on the government's cutbacks. "If there would have been a plan in the hospital they would have operated," she says. But in spite of her prejudice, Fossat will insist on Cléche's offer of a chair for herself. Her take on the PQ's health care reform, however, is crystal clear: "They wanted to do it in too drastic a manner," says Fossat.

The Liberals have gotten some mileage out of the health-care system's woes. But after Chartrand vowed to suspend the current round of health-care cuts and reinvest in the system, Liberals watched a transition as Bourcheid turned around and pledged to put \$1.1 billion back into health care during another PQ mandate. Among some Que-



becers, the flurry of spending promises by both parties after four years of belatedness by the PQ provoked disdain. In Montmagny, a chair tourist town east of Quebec City, where former Parti Québécois member Pierre Paul Gaudreault complained that the funding promises have resulted in an election that "doesn't seem very serious—it seems like a campaign from the past." In his small collector's shop, Gaudreault said he plans to switch his usual vote from the PQ to the ADQ, which has criticized the largesse. Although Gaudreault approves of the PQ's deficit-cutting, he worries about making that progress for the Liberals. Gaudreault says, "For me, their leader isn't very credible."

C are start pulling into the parking lot at Sherbrooke Jacques Plante's store an hour before the election. For hundreds of local residents in this industrial city 120 km northeast of Montreal, the old road with its arched wooden roof is the nerve center on Friday nights. Inside, a single Quebec Major Junior Hockey League championship has set from the 1984-1985 season hangs conspicuously over entrance, a trivia that better

ON THE STAGE Bourcheid's calculated ambiguities appear to have satisfied many voters

days for the local Catamounts—sawed for the nearby satellite. From a corner seat high up in the stands, 37-year-old club president Mario Bourcheid sits calmly as his fourth-place "Cat" debuts the vintage Cape Breton Screaming Eagles 50. He spends part of the game waving and chatting with people in the crowd. The 1,000 fans are blemished, but large packets of maple syrup have the spirit of the five-month strike that shut down the two local, Atlantic-Consolidated line, and paper plates until last week. "It affected the local economy," says Bourcheid. "It's another factor that hasn't helped us as free."

Best known outside Quebec as Prime Minister Jean Charest's home town, Sherbrooke is a good place to gauge why Chartrand has had difficulty making contacts with francophone voters. The riding is held by Chartrand federally, the PQ provincially, and delivered a 55-per-cent Yes vote to the sovereignty in the 1995 referendum. Despite the straining local economy, with its 15-per-cent unemployment rate, many residents who are satisfied with the Bourcheid government aren't difficult. Several voters praise the PQ's effort in making the province's deficit, which hovered around \$6 billion when the party took power in 1994 (Bourcheid promises a balanced budget by the year 2000). "I think they've done good work," says Yves Gelin, 60, a machanic at a local factory. And for the leaders, Gelin says, it is a difficult to offer an opinion about Chartrand because he has never been in power. "For Quebecers," adds Gelin, "Mr. Bourcheid has an incredible charisma—and that gives him a lot of votes."



DECISIONS Store owner Gaudreault is critical of the parties' largesse

SUPPORTING THE CAUSE OF QUEBEC SOVEREIGNTY

Since the death of the Meech Lake accord in June, 1990, when Quebecers took to the streets in protest against what they saw as rejection by the rest of Canada, francophone voters have consistently supported the sovereignist cause. The Nov. 30 election will mark the province's sixth trip to the polls in the past six years. The results since 1990:

- 1992** **Charlottetown referendum:** 65 per cent of francophones support the P. Q. Québécois position and vote Yes to the constitutional accord.
- 1993** **Federal election:** The Bloc Québécois sweeps the largely French-speaking ridings outside Montreal, and wins 54 of the province's 75 seats.
- 1994** **Provincial election:** The Parti Québécois triumphs in the 1994 election, and takes power with 77 of 75 seats.
- 1995** **Bourcheid referendum:** 60 per cent of French-speakers vote Yes to independence.
- 1997** **Federal election:** The Bloc Québécois holds most of its francophone seats, taking 44 of 75 ridings.

During the last period, in the modest MIP lounge overlooking the St. Gilles district, Bourcheid's presence for Bourcheid's popularity. "He doesn't have the charisma of René Lévesque, but he has a way of speaking and presenting things that makes them sympathetic to the francophone population," says Gaudreault. A federalist and former mayor of Sherbrooke, South who served briefly in the riding's Liberal MP when Chartrand left politics in 1990. Gaudreault says the PQ is almost a one-man show. "People don't vote for the Parti Québécois, they vote for Bourcheid," he contends. The PQ's campaign advertising tends to reinforce that claim. Several of their leaflet-and-televised ads revolve around an aviator-like Bourcheid, as do their green campaign posters with the "I have confidence in a Bourcheid government" slogan. In fact, the only reference to the PQ is a small party logo repeated 4 to 5 times.

Most polls now show Bourcheid with a slight lead in the popular vote and a massive 30-point lead among francophone voters—a combination that would add up to a big PQ victory. And the province is clearly appealing to francophones and sovereigntist alike. Strolling along Sherbrooke's downtown main street after supper one evening, self-described federalist Gaetan Gaudreault concedes he hasn't made up his mind. "I like Chartrand," says Gaudreault. But he also admires Bourcheid, giving him points for attacking the deficit, unlike the previous Liberal government. The prospect of another referendum does not scare him. Gaudreault says, "because I know that at least just we'll have the chance to vote No to separation."

He is not alone. Many francophone Quebecers do not view this election as a showdown on their future status in or out of Canada. They are simply electing a provincial government. And, while a majority of voters don't want another referendum, many still believe the constitutional status quo. As a result, Bourcheid has provided away at Chartrand's pledge for a moratorium on referendums. "Why should a government spend that much a powerful instrument in democracy?" and Bourcheid, who earlier cast a Wonderline-like spell on the debate by hinting he could hold a referendum on issues other than sovereignty.

Bourcheid also avoided the referendum waters by suggesting that before a sovereignty vote, the PQ government would focus on an agreement with other provinces to restrict federal spending power in areas of provincial jurisdiction. Such statements may sway PQ hardliners—but they may be the vote to prove. "People don't want to choose between Quebec and Canada," says Jean-Marc Lévesque, head of the Montreal polling firm Group Lévesque & Lévesque. "They want both."

Bourcheid's calculated ambiguities appear to have satisfied such desires. The premier seems almost unassailable, especially since promising not to hold another referendum until he creates the proper alignment of circumstances needed to vote. Whatever his vague phrase "winning confidence" means, however he plans to bring those conditions about (and he has left little doubt that he intends to do so, if only through "leverage" as he explained during the debate), the tactic seems to have worked. Bourcheid has convinced people he is less concerned than his party's Liberal leader John Pélissier explained in a television

speech to a group of Montreil businessmen. Aware they were getting nowhere with their health-care attacks, the Liberals have opted to spend the last days of the campaign focusing exclusively on Bouchard's vow to hold another referendum. The polls are clear: a majority of Quebecers do not want to go through the squabbling of another debate on sovereignty, which previously strains families and friendships. Charvet's campaign bus is now emblazoned with an eye-catching yellow banner proclaiming "No more referendums."

The switch in tactics came as a relief to many concerned Liberal candidates. Some were unsettled by the same thing that worried party members, says Liberal caucus chairman Jacques Chagnon, and wondered, "When will we get to the referendum question?" Charvet has now given them what they wanted—and some voters are certainly receptive. Jean Lemire, 36, who works at a door and window company in Strevings, thinks the referendum promise turns the PQ. "Among the people I know, they are losing a lot of votes because of that," says Lemire, who voted PQ in 1994. Upset over health-care cuts and opposed to separation, Lemire says he'll likely vote Liberal on Nov. 30. "The essential thing is that referendum costs us a fortune."

But in Cliche's Vinland riding, on a recent afternoon swing through a middle-class neighborhood, only one of 36 voters expressed concern about the referendum issue. "That is perhaps the big surprise of this door-to-door campaign," says Cliche. "People very rarely raise this question. They know that it's an election of a government." Noting that the Parti Québécois has lost three previous referendums, Cliche adds: "I no longer think that this referendum issue is a wormhole question."

In fact, while polls show most Quebecers don't want another sovereignty vote, and Bouchard keeps insisting there will be one, the premier's support grows. "When we point out the contradiction to people in our focus groups, they say, 'Oh, he won't hold a referendum. He won't want to do anything that would hurt us,'" says a reinvigorated Jean Babin, a Montreal lawyer and adviser to Charvet. "How do you fight that?"

Charvet had one good shot at it—and missed. Near the end of the televised debate, finally face-to-face with the man who captured their own friendship eight years ago by walking out on attempts to



CHOOSING QUEBEC: Was there really a choice? Charvet (above) demanded of the Liberal leader

save the Meech Lake accord when they were both members of the Mulroney government. Charvet tried to get Bouchard to explain why he favored taking Quebec down the path of further, uncharted constitutional adventures. Bouchard responded by asking Charvet if he would sign the Calgary declaration, the vague, goodwill statement drafted by the other nine provinces in 1987 that is little more than a framework for more constitutional talks. "Sign or not, yes or no," taunted Bouchard, as Charvet dodged and jugged and the debate clock ran out.

As for the Bouchard enigma? "Even in Indonesia in Quebec, we're not always and balanced," says Senator Jean Charest. Rivest, taking a stab at explaining Bouchard's coolism may allow Rivest, who was an adviser to former Liberal premier Robert Bourassa, is traveling with Charvet to help him through the minefields and back roads of Quebec politics. "With Jean Charest in Ottawa, who has a different idea about how Canada should work," Rivest notes, "they feel they need someone strong in Quebec, someone to play goalie."

Standing on the banks of the fast-flowing St-Esprit River, Rivest writes for Charvet to finish a campaign stop in the old mill town of Windsor, 115 km east of Montreal. He tells a parable to explain the Quebecers' love for ambiguity. "The daughter of a Gaspean fisherman comes home to tell her father she has fallen in love with a man who is not from the peninsula," says Rivest. "But don't worry," she tells her alarmed father. "I'm going to go to a notary to



ON THE STAVES: PQ strategists were concerned about losing Le Polé's Bayler (above with Bouchard and Charvet) on the premier



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COVER Charest may have switched tactics too late

get a prenuptial agreement." The father still appears apologetic. "OK," he tells her. "I'd like to the notary. Just don't sign anything." A stressed smiley grin. "That's why Lucien succeeded in the debate," he says. "Most Quebecers have never even heard of the Calgary declaration. They just don't want to be committed—they just want to have to sign anything."

Encore, the hyper warm-up man, has teased and tickled the television studio audience into the required estimable state. It is seconds before 10:30 on a Thursday night, and the crowd of 550—mix ranging from young couples to single older women and several rows of university students based in from Trois Rivières—is ready to "give Julie the energy she needs" to make the coming 60 minutes of live television work well. "Julie" is Julie Snyder, the 34-year-old host, who already made her name with and early show, *Le Petit J*, requested watching to Quebec (Pung)—the 11 for Julie and the man to play on words for Gossip—averages 720,000 viewers a night. Monday to Thursday, or about one in eight Quebecers, and Snyder has little trouble looking the largest star from Quebec's homegrown celebrity circuit. "Julie has become an institution in Quebec," says the show's producer, Pierre-Louis Laberge. "Believing to come on our show would be a bit of an affront to Quebecers. In Quebec, you go on *Petit J*."

Little surprise, then, that all three political leaders have made appearances during this campaign, despite the risk of having to handle the water-cooled questions or surprises the *any Snyder* might throw their way (see Diamond, also produced a row in the studio and threatened he grow his claim to have spent summers milking them). Political maneuvering is the Quebec celebrity business, although their reputations are slipping, as they are everywhere else. "Politics was a natural spot in Quebec for a long time, but it is now a sport that's more and more abandoned," says Snyder, as she swells on her dressing room chair after the show. In the current Quebec pantheon, Céline Dion is undoubtedly bigger than Bouchard, also seen with a flash.

Despite the obvious benefits of reaching Snyder's big audience, PQ strategists were right about avoiding Snyder as Bouchard-Charest, on the other hand, reveals in appearing on Snyder's show. His campaign appearance was his second one, on *Jeune Équipe*, and he told producers he did not need to see a script or interview. "Charest was relaxed with television, he's like a fish in water," says Snyder. Charest could easily switch careers from politics to hosting a TV show, she adds, with a sincerity that suggests she is not referring to his low profile Bouchard's encourage, on the other hand, tried to exert more control, making a few suggestions about what she might want to do with their leader. "They kept insisting a bit about TV producers, had some ideas," Snyder laughs. "We said, 'No—that will be very boring.'"

Instead, Bouchard's appearance turned into an emotional—and controversial—moment. Film-maker Claude Fournier, one of the premier's closest friends, made a surprise appearance. He brought along a copy of a scriptbook containing written thoughts and photos he had kept during Charest's 1994 election, when he stood out of recording myositis, the so-called "silly-silly" disease and ten night



PAYING A PRICE. Bouchard can remain a dominant issue for Bouchard and many other Quebecers

leg had to be unseated. Bouchard was visibly emotional at his friends' recollections. "It was really moving—during the current cut backs he just stared at the face," says Snyder. Back in the parents' waiting room after his appearance, Bouchard was met by his wife, Audrey, and the pair collapsed into each other's arms.

Bouchard's illness and his death-defying recovery are part of his political mystique, and *Le Petit J* political pundit Lyndee Gossip accused the premier of shamelessly exploiting the issue on *Petit J* for political ends. "The peak in the art of manipulating emotions," she wrote. A human Bouchard responded with a letter to the paper, saying he was outraged that his "surprise and certain discomfort" had been cynically "described as staged." Snyder says she, too, was distressed by Gossip's attack. Quebecers all shared the experience of Bouchard's illness she says. "I think what people are looking for from their politicians is someone they feel packaged, the human being behind the politician. When we see it, it feels good."

A certain glossiness had fallen over Montreal's celebratory but busy week. There is a general gloominess in the city's corporate community that it pays the economic price for Quebec's constitutionally high wage act, something Charest was supposed to solve. If the PQ wins, says longtime Liberal PM, "it will be more difficult, more complicated. And some people will be very disappointed. They had put so much hope in Charest." These were words that many corporate leaders had come to ground, which may have prompted Charest's complaint during a speech in Sherbrooke that "hardly doesn't count" when things are going well—it counts when we're challenged."

So Charest solidified on. Perhaps he gathered some strength from the experience of Daniel Johnson, his predecessor, who made upstate ground in the last days of the 1984 campaign by emphasizing the need to avoid another referendum. That was what brought Charest to Quebec politics in the first place: the basis on which he made his gamble. Now, he has to hope Quebecers will see his unprecedented pledge for what it is: an escape from being asked to choose. □

Bruce Wallace



Facing the coming storm

When the risk cleared from his newsworthy interview with the *Maclean's* *Le Point*, Jean Chrétien solemnly promised—like some misbehaving schoolboy challenging the lines on a blackboard—that he would stay out of the Quebec election campaign. It is not unusual if the Prime Minister's involve to Asia last week were far enough away for Jean Chrétien's conduct, but they are not: the Quebec Liberal leader alone with Lucien Bouchard, who, after all, has real problem. Not that Charest was helped by Chrétien's contention to *Le Point* that the Canadian could not be a traitor of power but only for the provinces' package. During the leaders' debate, Bouchard called Charest

porters, who get more anxious every week about the short life of the last apparent in the Liberal party leadership. And they expect no shortage of squawking from Reformers and Tories, who will argue that a Bouchard victory means Chrétien's time is up.

Chrétien and his unflinchingly combative loyalists are having none of it. This has been a rocky ride for the Prime Minister, but after crossing a personal Rubicon at a last-minute dinner in Ottawa this month by admitting he has made some mistakes, Chrétien is thorough apologizing. The Prime Minister's message has taken great comfort from U.S. President Bill Clinton's strong words of encouragement, which he provided in person. The American's public disapproval, and the Chretien crew

**There will be
demands for
Jean Chrétien's
head if Lucien
Bouchard wins
another mandate**

happily suggests the media has over AFBC security is just as out of touch. They point to polls showing Chrétien's high approval ratings and satisfaction levels with the country's direction are the highest in 25 years. Chrétien will take his out on one Canadian, not the media, they say. And they note with some disdain that the Canadian business press, who criticized Chrétien for the "gift" of abetting Bouchard with the *Le Point* interview, see the same who see nothing untoward about Labov's current \$1.5-billion bid for Quebec's Proton grocery chain. Bouchard has said that offer to undercut Charest's claim that political assassination makes outside investors shudder at Quebec.

Charest may rally in the final days and weeks, of course, making those points moot. But should defeat come, Chretien supporters are confident they won't wear the loss. The margins may have been as thin as a dead hair, but the Prime Minister can at least claim he beat Bouchard in the 1995 sovereignty referendum. And if Charest loses, if the most charismatic, articulate leader of a new generation of Quebec politicians cannot punch past Bouchard's message, then some people might conclude the Quebec premier is simply unbearable to a nation who runs against him. Why then Chretien might rightly point out, should Chretien go running off in a pique, looking for yet another savior?

But Chrétien goes his own list of enemies. In short, with the Ottawa press gallery, which they accuse of agitation against the Prime Minister for the show of contempt of waiting some months for their dull lives. They add Paul Martin sup-

porters, who get more anxious every week about the short life of the last apparent in the Liberal party leadership. And they expect no shortage of squawking from Reformers and Tories, who will argue that a Bouchard victory means Chrétien's time is up.

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CHINKS IN HIS ARMOR

Ralph Klein may be vulnerable on two fronts

BY BRIAN BERGMAN

The last time the Liberal party held office in Alberta, voters had just secured the right to vote. Prohibition remained in effect and the 1929 stock market crash was still eight years away. Alberta has since become ruled by a series of political dynasties: the United Farmers of Alberta (14 years), the Social Credit Party (38 years) and the Progressive Conservatives (27 years and counting). But if the provincial Liberals' newly elected leader, Nancy MacBeth, is disturbed by her party's long political drought, she isn't letting us. "I have no doubt that voters at some point will once again decide that it's time for a change," MacBeth told *Maclean's* shortly after her debut as Opposition leader in the provincial legislature last week. "And when they do, we will be ready."

That may not happen any time soon. The Alberta economy is firing on all cylinders, the province's net debt—never raised in long-neglected debt—about to be refinanced and Premier Ralph Klein, a country populist who has remade the Conservative party in his own image, is still riding high in the polls as he enters his seventh year in office. MacBeth, a former Conservative cabinet minister who split with the party after losing to Klein in a bitterly fought 1992 leadership contest, understands she faces an uphill battle. But on her opening salvo in the legislature last week, she seemed to attack the premier on two key fronts where political observers believe he may be vulnerable: his government's handling of controversial loans to prop up the moribund West Edmonton Mall, and widespread public unease over the state of the province's health-care system.

MacBeth's first question after the first question period as Opposition leader led to the charge. "Mr. Speaker," she said, "the premier of the province has engaged in a first-year cover-up in regards to the \$500-million West Edmonton Mall. Why? MacBeth was referring to an extraordinary financial package put together in 1994 by the provincially owned Alberta Treasury Branches on behalf of the Greenman brothers, owners of West Edmonton Mall. In an eight-page statement of charges filed in August, A.T.B. alleged that the four brothers—Nathan, Stephen, Michael and Alexander—had bribed A.T.B.'s former superintendent, Brian Leaky, to return for a sweetheart deal.



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MacBeth (left) Klein: having remade the Tory party, he is still riding high in the polls as he enters his seventh year in office.

The agreement saw A.T.B. guarantee \$383.5 million of the mall's loans from the T.D. Bank, loan an additional \$65 million on an interest-free basis for 30 years—and discharge a \$146,000 mortgage against the Edmonton home of Nader Greenman. The financial package effectively secured an earlier deal between A.T.B. and the mall's principal lender, Toronto-based Gentile Inc., which would have seen Greenman assume majority control of the mall from the provincially owned Greenman. That prospect had led the brothers to lobby Klein and his senior ministers to make sure the mall did not fall into the hands of eastern financiers.

When the West Edmonton Mall story first erupted this summer, Klein told reporters he "followed as direction as my instincts" between the mall and A.T.B. But an internal government memo from 1994 soon surfaced showing that Klein had, in fact, urged two senior ministers to find "an Alberta solution" to the mall's woes. The controversy escalated earlier this month when lawyers for the Greenmans—who strongly deny they ever offered any bribes—filed a series of court documents. Among them was a statutory declaration from Leaky, in which he denied receiving bribes and alleged that he at all times "acted in the policy and instructions of Ralph Klein" and otherwise acted in line with the Greenmans.

Last week, the premier flatly rejected MacBeth's assertions of a

cover-up, noting that Alberta's auditor general is currently investigating the loan arrangements at the government's behest. But he cautioned to look at opposition demands for a full public inquiry. University of Calgary political scientist David Taras notes there is nothing clear—or even particularly surprising—about a provincial government bailing out a failing corporation. That it is a practice that Klein has repeatedly promised to stamp out. "One of Klein's strengths that he's seen as a straight shooter," says Taras. "This could be seen as a breach of trust."

Another potential Achilles heel for Klein is the mounting opposition over IRL 37, which would give the provincial government the authority to approve or reject private, for-profit hospitals. The premier insists that the legislation is intended to protect publicly funded, universal health care. The Liberals, hoping to capitalize on public concerns about the way spending cuts have affected health care, say the bill poses the way for two-tiered medicine.

Whatever the true intent of IRL 37, it is clear that Klein's acutely sensitive political antennae had sprung into action last week, just days before the opening of the fall session, the premier announced that a public summit would be held early in the new year to seek solutions for a health-care system beset by population growth, physician shortages and angry

patients. Klein told reporters that even the government's own polling shows "there is a perception that there is something fundamentally wrong about the health-care system."

Offsetting the controversies over health care and the A.T.B. loans is a provincial economy that has rarely been more vigorous. Provincial Treasurer Stockwell Day recently reported that Alberta's growth rate for 1995, after inflation, hit 7.2 per cent, its best performance in nine years. The government is currently projecting a \$277-million budget surplus for 1996-1997—the fifth consecutive balanced budget under Klein. Moreover, the province will have eliminated an accumulated net debt of \$8 billion by the year 2000, a decade earlier than initially projected.

The Tories currently enjoy a commanding lead in the legislature, holding 64 seats compared with the Liberals' 37 and two for the N.P.C. According to Taras, Alberta's continued prosperity, along with Klein's steadfast election to run for office again, means the Tories may remain unassailable. "Ralph Klein is worth 1,000 votes in every riding in the province," adds Taras. "He has become a symbol of Alberta in a way that's sometimes hard to explain." MacBeth's formidable task is to chip away at the premier's champions. Her success will determine whether the Alberta Liberals' long journey to the political wilderness is nearing its end. □

OLD RIVALS MEET AGAIN

She was the product of Edmonton's Tory Glenora district, blessed with good looks and a Red Tory pedigree that made her the darling of the party establishment. He was the slight, pimply upstart from Calgary's working-class Inverness Park neighbourhood who came along topped among the party's more night-owl and rural supporters. And when Ralph Klein handily defeated Nancy MacBeth for the leadership of Alberta's Progressive Conservative party in December, 1992, it came as a body blow to a woman who hadn't then had known few setbacks in public life. MacBeth declined to join Klein's cabinet or to run in the following year's provincial election. Instead, she left politics, married, and finally re-emerged earlier this year as Nancy MacBeth, leader of Alberta's long-beleaguered Liberal party. We're finally two former Conservative colleagues at it: we've her as a sore loser, the 49-year-old MacBeth insists she is motivated by principles, not political revenge. "I've always been a fiscal conservative with a social conscience," she says. "The Tory party used to represent that, but it has changed."

MacBeth, who considers herself in the same ideological mould as her avuncular political mentor, Peter Lougheed, contends that Klein has tilted the Conservative party far too much to the right. She notes that when Lougheed came to power in 1971, one of his first acts was to provide full public funding for kindergarten. In 1994, the Klein government tried to cut that funding in half, but later restored it after public protests. "To me it was very symbolic," says MacBeth. "It showed how far the party had moved from its roots." From 1986 to 1992, MacBeth served as minister of health and education—two areas that she says have been especially devastated by Klein's deficit-slashing campaign. "Her danger to Klein is that she has credibility among Lougheed moderate and Red Tories," says University of Calgary political scientist David Taras. "Also, she understands the levers of power." But of Klein is unswayed by the return of his old adversary, he isn't showing it. The premier was asked by reporters last week to tell MacBeth's first day in Opposition leader "Nancy hasn't changed much," he smiled. "I don't sense a tremendous amount of spin or a new strategy. The grudge match has just begun."

□ □ in Edmonton

Cowardly murder

A moderate editor is victim of sectarian violence

The short sentence of the act was chilling. Someone, it appears, waited in the dark that came early this time of year for Ties Singh Hayer, the editor of North America's largest Punjabi language newspaper, to return to his home in Surrey, B.C., at the end of the workday on Nov. 18. As Hayer, who had been paralyzed in a shooting attack in 1986, struggled to make his way from the driver's seat of his car to his wheelchair, the assassin died at the crippled man's head, killing him instantly. The dead globalized British Columbia's Sikh community, which has been dogged by violence for a decade and a half, Hayer's family denounced the killing in the words of a traditional law. In the Sikh tradition, Hayer, "not only for killing an honorable Canadian, a journalist, father and grandfather, but also for branding the Indo-Canadian community as violent terrorists."

While RCMP homicide unit stations at least policy kept them in mind, the story's national implications among British Columbia's 150,000 Sikhs was that Hayer had died for his politics—and for freedom of speech. The 60-year-old publisher and editor was widely respected in the province and was increasingly influential in Sikh community. But he was an outspoken critic of extreme fundamentalists within the 500-year-old faith who endorse violence in the pursuit of religious and political goals—mainly the creation of an independent state of Khistan in what is now India. But despite both Hayer's ethnicity in the Indo-Canadian Times, and the increasingly establishment look of the Sikh main stream in British Columbia—a population that includes three provincial and one federal cabinet minister—blood continues to stain relations between Sikh moderates and extremists. Hayer's slaying brought outrage from B.C. Premier Glen Clark and personal pain to Attorney General Iqbal Dasgupta—a fellow Sikh and friend of Hayer. That the unrelenting killing may yet have an impact that Hayer's estate could not, in the view of some Sikhs, if it serves finally to exhaust the community's patience with the excesses of its extremists.

Hayer himself had been a symbol of the pain inflicted on the Sikh community by sectarian violence since being paralyzed in an attack

by a religious riot in August, 1988. His newspaper's offices have been the target of a bombing attempt. Similar violence has struck many others in the divided community, including Dasgupta, who was attacked with an iron bar in 1985 for criticizing the violent pursuit of an independent Khistan. And police are still trying to solve the bombing that took place in an Air India jet after it took off from Canada bound for Bombay—329 people died in that mass murder.



Hayer in his office: a target for criticizing Sikh extremists

Last year, a brawl on temple grounds in Surrey between moderates and extreme fundamentalists—who disagreed on whether tables and chairs should be used for the faith's command dances—resulted in four shootings. In March this year the former president of a second temple had the windows of his home shot at. At a third temple in Abbotsford in August, 50 people waded into a ramble between factions divided over whether shoes should be worn inside the building. Protesters intensified an recent war in real stakes of candidates representing moderate and conservative fac-

tions campaigned for executive offices in elections at temples in Abbotsford and Vancouver. The victory was the key to substantial revenues, as well as control of large temple complexes.

In the wake of Hayer's killing, some Sikh moderates said his death was not entirely unexpected. "There have been rumors of hit men in town for weeks," said former temple president Bhai Singh Dhillo, who was at risk himself in 1991. Last July, rumors also circulated about a hit list of seven or eight moderates earmarked for death, when an actual religious war was cancelled over police concerns about violence. Fundamentalists in the temple elections speculated that Hayer's murder might have been a calculated provocation. "For all we know it was one of the so-called moderates," suggested Surjit Singh Jaitani, a conservative citizen writer. The most remarkable scenario was advanced by an Ontario-based conservative on Sikh affairs, U. Sher Singh. In interviews, he accused Indian intelligence agencies of funneling money through that country's consulate in Vancouver to a group of militants, in a bid to discredit the Sikh community in Canada. India's central government in New Delhi, Singh said, dismissed the idea. "I can say categorically, there is no truth in that kind of allegation."

Hayer's family says there is no mystery, however, about the roots of the violence or the responsibility for their father's death. "It's the same people who were involved in the chair issue," asserted Hayer's son David, who rushed a special edition of the Indo-Canadian Times into print the night of his father's death. "It's the same people who were involved in Air India," he added. "The key people hiding in the back are the same."

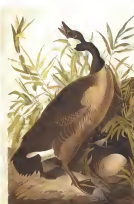
Moderate Sikh leaders insist the police know the identities of people they suspect of sponsoring the violence. But investigations imply that, until now, witnesses have been slow to come forward with useful evidence. "I'm not that in India, you just don't talk to the police," lamented Surrey RCMP Const. Grant Leonard. "As a result, you don't get people coming forward."

Isabelle Hayer believes her father-in-law's death may be the catalyst police need. "People who would not speak out before are coming forward and talking. That's our first significant step."

The impact of Hayer's death may become clearer this week, after a temple in Abbotsford counts the ballots in a court-ordered election. Another election is set for a Vancouver temple in December. A better understanding of the killing light for freedom of speech will come, however, when those who know the identity of Hayer's killer break their silence.

CHRIS WOOD is in Vancouver.
DANTEO KARANLASHAKA is in Toronto.

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Pierre Trudeau (left) with sons Sacha and Justin (far right) and former wife Margaret leaving memorial service. Emily Savary

'Respect our peace'

The search for Michel Trudeau's body is suspended

The moment, lifted from a documentary, was played and replayed on television: a good-looking young man in sunglasses and dark hair coolly tooting across a blue lake in a speedboat. His mother, sitting behind him in a yellow bathing suit, laughing, tosses her chestnut mane against a brilliant blue sky. How different from the images in a video brought back by a police helicopter flying over British Columbia's Kootenai Glacier Provincial Park last week. Those showed a gull-shaped lake of glacier water, grey as slate and veiled in by mountains so steep and bare their danger was obvious even to city slickers. Ice was closing in on the lake, drawing an indifferent veil over what, for the moment at least, is the young man's grave.

On Nov. 18, the encroaching ice forced police to abandon their attempts to recover

the body of 25-year-old Michel Trudeau—five days after an avalanche swept down on the son of former prime minister Pierre Trudeau, 76, and three friends as they cruised Kootenai Lake's precipitous shoreline at the end of a backcountry ski trip. The Trudeau family participated in the decision to suspend the search—taken at an RCMP planning session in Nelson, B.C.—through Michel's older brother Sacha, 34. It was a decision that lowlanders families face with heart-wrenching frequency—especially in outdoor and Dutch Columbia.

Yet that did nothing to diminish the sorrow for the Trudeau. Michel's father and mother, Margaret Trudeau Kemper, 30, were joined by Sacha and eldest son Justin, 26, at vastly shaken, in St. Vincent Roman Catholic Church in Montreal's downtown quarter on Friday for a private memorial service attended

ed by Gov. Gen. Roméo LeBlanc as well as politicians past and present, along with family and friends. The elder Trudeau read a passage from 1st Corinthians and his sons spoke of their love for the youngest brother. "I remember [Michel] with a smile on his face and a longer nose, mischievous glint in his eyes that most anything could happen, and probably would," Justin later told reporters after the 85-minute service.

Indeed, the befuddling terrain in the police video made evident the challenge facing searchers after Trudeau's three companions were airlifted to safety on Nov. 14. The next day, clouds over Kootenai Lake, nearly twice higher than Nelson and rimmed with knife-edge mountains, prevented even a reconnaissance flight. Twenty-four hours later, open skies allowed aircraft to drop 15 explosive charges on the slopes overlooking the lake, demolishing buildings of snow that threatened further slides. That cleared the way for RCMP divers to reach the area on Nov. 17. But by then, ice was already so thick at the

lake's edge that the divers' light-inflatable boat had to be towed over it by a helicopter to reach icy waters. Then the 1,600m altitude insured each diver to less than 10 squares in the ice-cold water. In the end, the effort proved futile: the team returned without the body—but with Michel's Labrador-shepherd cross, Mabel, and a second dog belonging to the girlfriend of another member of the group.

The following day searchers made an attempt to probe the lake's 100-m depths with a miniature submarine. But clouds again closed in, nearly trapping a helicopter moments after it dropped off an advance team. The team was forced to retreat, retreating the path of Trudeau's ill-fated group along the lake in a 4-km hike back down the mountain. With that setback, the search ended—at least until ice on the lake is solid enough to support travel and possibly until next spring's break-up. At the discussion where the decision was made to suspend the search, Sacha Trudeau "expressed the family's desire that no one else be put in danger to search for the body," according to RCMP Sgt. Stanley Koch.

The family's sorrow was no less real among residents of Rossland, B.C., the ski town where Michel Trudeau had lived for the past year. After failing in his first attempt to get a job as a ski lift attendant because he looked too scruffy—"He was virtually a bushman, with a big bushy beard and scruffy hair," remembers Chris McLaughlin, the lift transporter who turned him down—Trudeau tried again. This time, shorn and shaved, he got the job and quickly won a reputation for being hardworking, cheerful and outgoing—with a touch of his father's charisma.

He seldom mentioned his background. When he gave his father's name as Pierre Trudeau on a job application form, McLaughlin thought it was a joke. Michel's anonymity took a mild beating when his father came to visit and ski with his youngest son last March. But, said a bartender at a hangout frequented by Rossland's young ski crowd, "We didn't think of him as the prime minister's son. He was just Mike."

If the young Trudeau had made his life his own, he had come in circumstances that have become increasingly and tragically familiar to British Columbians. The growing popularity of extreme outdoor sports of all kinds has been matched by a steady increase in the number of people overtaken by the inherent risks. On the same weekend Trudeau died, 54-year-old photographer Uwe Meyer perished while kayaking in the rapids of the Capilano River in North Vancouver. And another avalanche, this one in British Columbia's Yoho National Park, claimed the life of an 18-year-old hiker, University of Calgary student Suzanne Desai. A lightning bolt had posted a nail on her residence door's head. "Suzanne loved the outdoors, and the possibility of danger would not have kept her inside." The words could just as easily have been written about Michel Trudeau.

CROSS WORD is by Susan Orr

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SPECIAL REPORT

A Canadian prisoner talks about his looming execution

DEATH

Faulder in prison last week; his 1977 mug shot (inset); the lethal-injection chamber at the prison (right); You not afraid to go?

Death row inmate No. 588 shifts nervously on his stool. He is behind a thick plate of glass, locked in a steel cage no bigger than a private booth. He has been in prison for 33 years, most of it alone in a 13-by-23-meter cell, so he is not used to talking to strangers. But when the words came, they came quickly and smoothly: He knows that the state of Texas intends to put him to death very soon—three minutes after 6 p.m. on Thursday Dec. 10, to be precise. He has been here before, this is his ninth execution date. But this time feels different. Even his lawyer says it will be a "quiet execution," if he lives through that day. So he is calm, prepared to face whatever he must face. "I'm ready to go, and I'm not afraid to go," he says. "There's an afterlife, as far as I'm concerned, and I expect to be part of it. It's that simple."

Joseph Stanley Faulder ("Stan") to his friends and family back in Alberta has lost his sister for more than two decades. Now 41, he was twice tried and convicted for the 1975 murder of an elderly widow in the east Texas town of Joplin. So he is calm, ready to go, as he looks either way. "Through the long years on death row, he refused all chances to speak publicly. Even now, with death around the corner, Faulder will not discuss his case—including the essential question: did he commit the crime for which he faces execution by lethal injection? But last week, in an interview with *Maclean's*, he reflected on his life and his agonizing death. "We don't dictate when we come, and we don't dictate when we go," he said. "That's true for everybody. But I have an advantage over you—I know when I'm going." He is not, he said, counting on another reprieve. "I'm not expecting one this time. Our legal battle is more or less over. It's pretty much in the hands of the governor of Texas, and he's not noted for doing things like that."

Last week, too, he said goodbye to his elder sister, Pat Nicholl, who traveled from Jasper, Alta., to the Ellis Unit prison in Huntsville, Tex., to see him for what may well be the last time. They sat on either side of the heavy glass barrier, talking quietly

had been told was full of racism and jewelry. It all went terribly wrong. Phillips was found the next morning lying on a bed, bound with tape, the back of her head smashed in and a leather belt plunged into her chest. For Goodewiler's lawyer, Curtis Bright, it is high time that Faulder paid. "It was a horrible, vicious crime," he says. "This man was tried twice, and it just needs to be settled."

Faulder's family and supporters tell a much different tale. Both his trials, they say, were riddled with legal irregularities. The first time, in 1977, he was convicted on the strength of a confession he gave to police—but which was later thrown out by an Appeals Court. The second time, in 1981, Faulder was sent away on the basis of testimony by Summers, whose real name was Lynda McCann, and her common-law husband, Ernie. Lynda McCann was given immunity in return for her testimony, and both she and Ernie were offered money by Phillips's family. The victim's son, a wealthy oilman named Jack Phillips, spent \$555,000 hiring private prosecutors to pursue the case. Faulder's medical history—including a childhood brain surgery—was never taken into account when he was sentenced. Instead, he was classified as a "severe sociopath" by a notorious pre-execution psychiatrist known in Texas as "Doctor



CLOSING IN

through a wire mesh grille about family matters, about Faulder's two daughters and his grandchildren—whom he has never seen. There are no plans for Nicholl or other members of his family to return before Dec. 10. "No," he said. "We've said our goodbyes for the time being. We're set, on both sides."

On CBS with that, I prefer it that way. Goodbyes are very hard, you know, under these circumstances." If Faulder is finally put to death, he will be the first Canadian to be executed in the United States since 1962—when Stan Clark, owner of Toronto's west-to-the-go chamber in San Quentin for killing a California woman. Texas executes more people than any other state—360 since it restored the death penalty in 1982. It is as this year alone—and, for most Texans, Faulder is just one more convicted killer who must pay the price. The murder for which he was sent to death row was a particularly brutal one: on the night of July 8, 1975, Faulder and a woman named Karen Ann Sherry Summers talked their way into the home of a 75-year-old woman named Inez Phillips, planning to break into a floor safe. They

ANDREW PHILLIPS
IN HUNTSVILLE, TEX.

of his appeals against his mandated execution. Now, he has no chance left. His lawyer, Sandra Bullock, has appealed for clemency to Texas Gov. George W. Bush and to the state's Board of Pardon and Parole—neither of which has a record of showing leniency. Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy has written to Bush and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, appealing for clemency on the grounds that Faulder's rights to consular assistance were violated. Ottawa is also supporting Bullock's last-ditch appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court this week. And some prominent Canadian opponents of the death penalty—including Bibaia (Harrington) Carter, the ombudsman who was almost executed in New Jersey for knowing murderers a court later said he did not execute—plan to go to Austin, the state capital,



to appear to thank. Finally, I'm grateful for the support, but frankly doesn't believe much will come of it. I don't think the government of Canada," he says, "has any clue down here whatsoever."

No family, perhaps, can easily imagine a beloved brother or father ending up at a prison number in a dreary city. Stan Faulder's is no exception. His 66-year-old sister, Nechelle, who administered her brother's home in Jasper, recalls her brother as a good-natured but who grew up to be a bit of a hothead, the kind who would grab a guitar at a party and be the centre of attention. "He was the guy everyone wanted at their parties," she says. "He could sing and dance and whistle like a bird." But it wasn't all smooth sailing. In 1941, when young Stan was almost 4, he was involved in an accident that his family says may have led to what happened in Gladeview decades later. The Faulders were living in McClelland, Alta., and one day while they were driving along a country road, the boy somehow managed to open the car's back door. He tumbled out the road, smashing his head on the door as he fell. For several days, it was touch-and-go. Finally, the doctors said his home. But Stan wasn't quite the same. "Anything that caused him stress," she says, "he'd go off in a blackout—what she calls Stan's spells."

From the age of about 7, he started stealing little things but couldn't explain why he did it. "He'd have this grey-white look on his face," recalls Nechelle. "He'd say, 'What did I do that for?' better. He never really understood." It got worse. In high school, after the family moved to Jasper, his "spells" continued. His grades fell, and he got into more serious trouble—though he was never violent. At 15, he was arrested for striking a woman and sent to a boys' home for six months. At 17, another theft got him six months in jail. At 22, he was caught in a stolen car and sent to jail in New Westminster, B.C., for two years. There he asked for psychiatric help and, according to Nechelle, was put in an experimental drug program that involved doses of LSD.

When Faulder got out in 1962, he went back to Jasper and straightened out. He got a job driving heavy machinery, and the next year married a nurse from Calgary named Lorraine Spencer. They had two daughters, but the marriage was strained. Faulder drifted from job to job and both he and Lorraine drank. The marriage fell apart in 1973, and Faulder was diagnosed with chronic alcoholism. He lost custody of his daughters because of his prison record and sank into a deep depression. He showed up at a family reunion in 1972, then vanished.

Faulder had drifted across the border into the United States. For a while, he worked on a kitchen crew at a casino in Reno. Near the summer of 1985, he turned up in Longview, an all town in northern British Columbia, where he was going by the name Stan Carlton. Faulder was still a drinker, but he called the Hamilton Club the southern corner of Longview, part of a strip of pale points known as Whiskey River Bend. It was there, one night in late June, that he hooked up with Stacey Summers, aka Lynda McCann. Summers was eight a 240-lb. bikini girl with asexuality tamped on her hands. Her regular boyfriend, Brian McCann, rode with an outlaw club called Deserters Legion, but that night Summers was with another man, James Moohan.

Faulder, Stacey and Moohan got talking, and, according to later testimony, started discussing how they could get money. Moohan had an idea: he had had the idea in a house where an old lady lived alone in Gladeview, 30 minutes west. She had a floor safe installed in a new wing of the house; it was full of money and jewels, Moohan said. So later that night, all three drove to Gladeview and checked out the place. Faulder's big white-truck jumpdown on North Main Street, the one with the cross-hatched work and her boom trees all around.

A few nights later, on July 8, Faulder and Stacey returned to Gladeview. Exactly what happened is unclear. But Faulder signed a confession after in 1977, and Stacey Summers told her story at his second trial in 1981. According to both women, Stacey



'I stabbed her in the chest,' Faulder said in a confession



Here Phillips has died in the 1975 crime scene (top), her home today. Phillips' supporters say his debts were inflated with legal extravaganzas

stepped on the back door of the bungalow, told Phillips that her car had broken down and asked to use the phone. When she got outside, she pulled a gun on the old lady and led Faulder in. "We went to find the safe, but found a gun and came back to find Stacey and the woman sleeping. In his signed statement, Faulder said he tried to subdue Phillips, but he could not get her up, but she kept fighting and he hit her with a beer made blackjacks. They laid her on the bed, and her hands with a knife, and went through the house."

The confession went on: "I went back to check on Mrs. Phillips. She was moaning and groaning and kicking. I felt the back of her head and the steel fell crushed. I went to the kitchen and got a knife. I went back to the bedroom and stabbed Mrs. Phillips. I stabbed her in the center of the chest."

It turned out the safe contained only worthless costume jewelry. Jack Phillips, the victim's son, posted a reward of \$50,000, and Manitoba gave police the names of both Faulder and Summers. In 1977, Faulder was arrested in Colorado, brought back to Longview and tried there. His lawyer Vernon Solosky, argued that his confession was inadmissible as evidence. During his interrogation by Brian Rogers, the evidence showed, Faulder had asked for "a couple of days" to think through his story. Solosky reasoned that meant he had asked to remain silent, so his constitutional rights were violated when the police kept questioning him. But the trial judge rejected that argument and the jury convicted Faulder.

Then came the punishment phase of the trial. The prosecutor, Odis

Canadians facing death

More than 1,600 Canadians are currently held in American jails, but fewer than 20 have been convicted of capital crimes. And besides Joseph Stanley Faulder, only two other Canadians are on death row in a U.S. prison.

One is Harold Smith, 41, who was sentenced to death in Fairfield County, Mo., in 1983 for murdering two native American cousins, Harvey and Mar, 24, and Thomas Running Bull, 28, both 16, formerly of Red Deer, Alta., admitted shooting the pair while high on LSD and alcohol in order to steal their car and, he said, because he wanted to know how it felt to kill someone. Early on, Smith changed his plea to guilty and asked for the death penalty, but later said he wanted to live. His lawyer believes his current round of court challenges—asking for important meetings with his parole—will take another five years to decide.

The other death row inmate is Michael Roberts, 44, this week, who walked away from a minimum-security prison in Missouri, B.C., in May, 1994, where he was serving 25 years for the attempted murder of a New Brunswick police officer and his wife for the killing of a price warrior. He stands convicted of strangling to death his fishing buddy, Elgie Carls, 57, in his suburban Seattle basement a few days later. Again, prosecutors said the evidence was clear that Roberts, who was sentenced to death by a Seattle jury last year, is murdering an appeal.

But produced two psychiatrists to evaluate Faulder. One, James Grigson of Dallas, was known as "Doctor Death" because he testified in scores of death-penalty cases—constantly concluding after a brief interview that the accused was a menace to society. Grigson's credibility was "zero," Solosky recalls now. "He was a hired gun for any county in Texas that would pay his fee." Several years later, in fact, Grigson was expelled from the American Psychiatric Association.

For the moment, though, Faulder went to death row in Monteville as inmate No. 388. He was barely five feet tall and typewritten for fellow prisoners, and bank interests, loans and checks out of payee's checks and bank checks. He read the Bible and wrote poems. One called "Threnos and Poems" contained this passage: "My dreams and fond schemes of wine, women and such."

Have been the same I was a child? These farmers owned, have made me accused? And were the source of my running so wild? In 1978, an Appeal Court threw out Faulder's confession and ordered a new trial. Jack Phillips, determined that his mother's accused killer not get away again, used a provision of Texas law to hire private prosecutors to pursue the case with the approval of the local district attorney. Odis Hill was hired to prosecute Faulder the first time and was by then in private practice, was hired to pursue the case with a Dallas lawyer named Phil Barlow. With no confession to rely on, and no physical evidence such as fingerprints linking Stacey Faulder to the crime, Hill needed witnesses. He struck a deal with Lynda McCann, the former Stacey Summers, who had been convicted only of conspiracy to commit burglary. In return for immunity and parole, as well as a promise of up to

\$11,000 for "relocation," McCann testified that it was Faulder who murdered Phillips.

McCann, however, was an accomplice of Faulder's and he could not be convicted solely on her evidence. Hill brought in her now-husband, Ernie McCann, who testified that he had heard Lynda and Faulder planning to rob the Phillips house. But McCann, too, was offered money (\$2,000 to compensate him for wages lost while he testified). Solosky, who now practices law in nearby Marshall, Tex., maintains that using private prosecutors may be the least bad of a whole lot of conflicts of interest.

"The problem is—where does their allegiance lie? To the people paying them or to the state of Texas?" He was totally not at issue. "Worse," says Faulder's defenders, is the state's holding a weekly news journal a week after a national election. Faulder's lawyer, Joseph Stanley Faulder, has insisted that the prosecution was valid. A self-described "liberal Democrat" who admits to having personal doubts about the death penalty, Hill says he was laced with the dilemma of trying to convict a man he was sure was guilty—but without being able to use the 1977 confession in his case. He was, he says, "legally unworkable," says Hill, but that does not mean it was bad. "I don't think it's any question that he did it," Hill says flatly. "I've seen and have the death penalty in Texas. Then Joseph Stanley Faulder has entered it."

Faulder languished in prison for another decade, while his appeals wended their way through the courts. He was named after Faulder's life to Barlow, a young public interest lawyer. She threw herself into the case, and he the first time contacted Faulder's family back in Alberta. But he had not heard from him in 15 years and thought he might be dead. Faulder himself explained that he thought they knew where he was and did not want anything to do with him. "I just let it ride," he says. "I was ashamed of my self and my situation. I was pretty depressed, and you don't really think straight when you're in that condition."

Barlow took inquiry into about Faulder's childhood from inquiry, his "spells" and bouts of depression. She collected statements attesting to Faulder's decision—much like one from an Alberta woman who said he had been in jail in January, 1965, when her car crashed in the middle of a blizzard and he took her to hospital. Barlow also found that Faulder had maintained a clean disciplinary record during his 14 years on death row—no carry from Grigson's poor record other than a vicious assault.

In 1992, she had two psychologists examine her client. One of them, a neuropsychologist, found that Faulder's old head injury left him with damage to the hippocampus—the part of the brain that controls judgment and impulse. The other psychologist, Paul Salas of Charlotte, N.C., found Faulder to be basically "an extremely gentle, passive man who had never displayed aggressive impulses in another context." In other words, Salas said in an

The Walls Out in Monteville: Faulder's sister came from Alberta to say goodbye





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SPECIAL REPORT

in 1992, it was not an ongoing threat to society that "in fact he had committed the crime, it was an aberration to his general character and psychological makeup." Babcock brought all that evidence to a judge in 1992, hoping to convince him that a new jury should reconsider Faudler's death sentence. The judge ruled against her and sent Faudler back to death row.

Finally, Babcock found out that Faudler's second trial might also have been tainted. In the files of Phil Harrison, one of the private prosecutors, she found a handwritten note suggesting that Ernie McCann was in on the robbery-murder all along. If so, he was also an accomplice and Faudler could not be convicted on his testimony. Harrison had since died and so could not be questioned about the note. But a judge dismissed Babcock's argument that a recent McCann's testimony was invalid.

Babcock remains convinced that no jury would convict Faudler if it was given the evidence she now has—and would certainly not sentence him to death. It is not a defence lawyer's job to decide whether her client did or did not commit a crime. But if Babcock had a chance to retry the case now, she says she would argue that Lynda and Ernie McCann were responsible for the death of the old lady in Gladewater—and send Stan Faudler, the outcast, as a scapegoat. "That is as plausible an explanation for what happened as the state's theory," she says.

Now Faudler's legal appeals are all but exhausted. He has spent the past decade mostly alone; he does not take part in the prison work program because "I can't see any point in working for a state that wants to kill you. It's kind of silly." So he has had plenty of time to think about the death penalty, about how arbitrary it is. Inevitably, while people almost never seem to get it and how death row is filled with poor, mostly uneducated men who did not get a good legal defence. "I'd hate to see Canadians back on the death penalty," he says. "There is no fair way you can adjudicate the death penalty." As close as he gets to discussing that line-up night in 1975 is to say that, yes, he does regret what happened. "All in all, there's never been any doubt about that."

Faudler has watched many friends leave death row—for the final mile to the forbidding old Walls Unit in the centre of Huntsville. The death chamber is there, the clinical room with the stainless-steel gurney to which the condemned are strapped as a lethal solution of sodium thiopental, pancuronium bromide and potassium chloride flows into their veins. The pace of executions has slowed in the week Faudler is due to die; executions are scheduled for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Still, he says again he is ready and unafraid. "We don't have a religious God," he says. "There's a time for judgment, and it's not here on Earth. I don't make the gods there, that's something I'll have to deal with then." Then, he laughs. ☐

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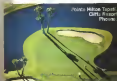


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The World's 10
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Los Angeles
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Tokyo
San Francisco
Frankfurt
Seoul
Paris

The busiest
Canadian airport is
Toronto's Pearson
ranked at #15
internationally.

Source: Airport Council
International



Frequent fliers
average 18
business trips per
year, compared to
16.6 trips in 1994

Airline has joined four of the world's largest airlines in a global alliance called Oneworld, along with American Airlines, British Airways, Cathay Pacific and Qantas. This ambitious network will serve 138 countries at 632 airports. More than 1,500 airplanes will carry 174 million passengers per year.

Another airline alliance, the Star Alliance, includes Air Canada, Lufthansa, SAS, Thai Airways, Varig, and United Airlines. Star serves more than 650 airports and more than 120 countries and is expected to carry about 180 million passengers per year.

Alliance partners share airport facilities and staff, including lounges, counter space and baggage handlers. The sharing of reward programs is still being examined.

"Oneworld will deliver unrivaled benefits across our partner airlines," says Canadian Airlines chief executive Kevin Brennan, "meeting our customers' top advantages of improved global access combined with the best quality service."

WHICH CLASS?

Many airlines have dropped their first-class sections in favor of a sumptuous business class.

Canadian Club Empress business class features comfortable seats and generous personal space for work or sleep. In-flight

phones are available on some planes. You can make and take calls, as well as send faxes and e-mail. Power outlets for plugging in your laptop, as well as snack-style lights for napping when often not sleeping or watching a movie, are being installed on more planes.

If your business involves long flights, consider choosing an airline that offers "sleeper" seats. Lufthansa and Singapore Airlines have seats that recline to 180 degrees. Other airlines with sleepers include British Airways, Air France and Qantas. Turbopoints can be pulled up for complete privacy — and pajamas are available.

REWARD PROGRAMS FOR
THE FREQUENT FLYER

Internet sites that are useful for choosing, keeping track of and comparing reward programs include <http://flyguy.com>. This site gives advice on how to choose a program and how to take advantage of your benefits. The site also supplies cost includes Canadian Airlines and Air Canada reward program information. It also lists InsideFlyer's Freddie Awards (after Freddie Laker, founder of Laker Airlines) for the best programs.

As seen elsewhere, Canadian Plus members can make reservations and purchase tickets on-line anywhere in the world

served by Canadian Airlines and its partners. You can also update Canadian Plus personal information and check your latest point balance. Booking a virtual ticket enables you to make your reservation by phone, fax or computer with no need to pick up or carry the standard flight coupon. Discounted fares are posted every Wednesday and the Awards Auction allows you to use points to bid for flights and merchandise.

Good Kakei, director of Canadian's interactive products, says the Web site gives business travelers more control. "They have access to flight schedules and reservations 24 hours a day, seven days a week to make business travel planning easier and more convenient. Our business travelers have asked for flexibility and choice in their travel planning."

American Express recently moved the bar on the premium card market with the September announcement of significant



Two executives take their respective clients to dinner. One escorts 4 clients by cab to a French bistro where he spends \$670. The other walks 3 blocks with 8 of her clients to an Italian restaurant and spends \$900.

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new benefits for its Platinum card. Members now earn reward points 50 percent faster with the introduction of the Points Accelerator – an enhancement to Aeroplan Membership Rewards program. Points Accelerator allows you to earn 1.5 points for every dollar spent.

In addition, Platinum members who purchase a ticket with Canadian Airlines receive a voucher for a complimentary companion ticket at the beginning of each year. The offer is the first of its kind in Canada and is applicable to any class, anywhere Canadian Airlines flies.

At an annual fee of \$350, the Platinum card is the most expensive, but stands out for its benefits. "The card market in Canada has become saturated with offers of low-fee, mass-market platinum cards," says Alan Stark, Aeroplan president and general manager. "With a clear, loyal, there are little more than spin-off promotions that quickly lose their luster, which put the real American Express has always stood for tangible value and the highest level of personal service."

The cornerstone of the card is the Concierge feature – a personal gofer service

which will assist card members with any request, anywhere, at any time, with a toll-free call. No request is too outlandish. On a special anniversary, one card member asked for his wife to be personally attended by Roger Whistler.

ON-LINE RESERVATIONS

Booking travel on-line has not quite taken off despite the ease of use of the Internet and e-mail. Only 7 percent of companies use e-mail and 4 percent use on-line methods to book travel according to the study.

But business travellers are still clicking on sites to get information. More than 85 percent of respondents to the Royal Winter Study said they gathered information on availability and pricing of flights, hotels and car rentals from travel Web sites.

One of the most popular sites is www.travelnet.com. Travelocity was launched by the Sabre Group, which helped pioneer the on-line travel business. It registers more than 250,000 new users a month.

Another increasingly popular site is www.expedia.com. In the first three months of 1998, it recorded \$52.9 million in bookings. Some analysts say Expedia, Travelocity and Microsoft's Expedia (www.expedia.com) now book enough travel sales to be in the top 50 travel agencies in the United States, with revenues increasing to US\$17.7 billion by 2002.

The International Air Transport Association says security concerns about credit card information transmitted on-line was the main most frequently cited by a majority of travel shoppers who do not complete a purchase. But Terrell Jones, CEO of Sabre, says that last year there was not a single report of theft of credit card information using the secure encryption built into the two main browsers, Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Explorer.

AIRPORTS

Airports are often hanted and hectic places – especially in vacation time. But among the hot and busy things of passengers going there is an aura of peace and quiet waiting for them down spiral corridors and behind reserved doors – the airline's private club. Access comes at a price



– \$200 to \$400 annually – but business travelers believe it is worth it.

As well as on-time comfort, the airline club is an efficient place to check in for your flight, get a seat assignment, upgrade or make future reservations. Canadian Airlines Express Lounges offer luxurious

seating areas with private telephone computers, Internet and book-on-line printers, premium snacks, fax machines, photocopies and meeting facilities. At the Toronto, Vancouver, Calgary and Montreal lounges, you can enjoy a soothing Shiro massage chair. The Vancouver lounge also has shower facilities. Club privileges are offered with all card airlines.

Air Canada has about 16 Maple Leaf Lounges to offer. Their Xpress Business Centres offer all the services expected from a business office centre, including PC workstations. If there is time to kick back, there is also a bar and Sony Playstation available. Showers and a sleeping service are offered at Heathrow and Vancouver. New lounges are expected in Halifax, Calgary, Los Angeles, St. John's and Quebec City.

Airports around the world are renovating and expanding to meet the increase in travel. Internationally, two new airports have opened: Kuala Lumpur and the ultra-modern Hong Kong International. Amsterdam's award-winning Schiphol is adding a golf and business centre. Singapore's Changi is completing a multi-million dollar expansion next year. In the United States, Philadelphia opened a \$200 million terminal and New York's JFK completed a \$10 billion renovation.

In Toronto, Pearson is undergoing a \$5 billion renewal, with the first phase opening in 2002. When finished, its passenger

Travel is viewed as a strategic investment to penetrate new markets and form international alliances

capacity is expected to double to 50 million annually. Montreal's Dorval is spending \$300 million now and another \$200 million during the next few years. Calgary launched a \$300 million upgrade, spending seven years. Vancouver is doing a \$114 million expansion and the winning terminal is getting a \$30 million facelift.

If you need to get on-line or need a fax, but do not have time to visit an airline club, look for PC-friendly Laptop Lane and NetNet carrels near phone booths. Laptop Lane is available at Cincinnati and Seattle airports. It consists of 12 to 15 office desks, each of which is about 36 sq. ft. in size. For \$9 per half hour, you

get a PC with Web and e-mail access, fax, telephone, data pads and network printers in an office with privacy. A concierge provides assistance if you need help.

Norfolk's new Millennium pay phones do not provide all these services, but they make it easier to dial in from a public location. The Millennium terminals include a smart card/phone card reader and a port to allow for easier access to your private mail, statements and the Internet from a public phone booth.

A handy trick on any out-of-country trip – whether you are at an airport, hotel or elsewhere – is a Canada Direct phone card, available from your local telephone company. In more than 130 countries, Canada Direct service connects you to Canada's telecommunications network. By placing your long-distance calls back to Canada, you always have access to a bilingual Canadian operator. And you are billed in Canadian rates instead of foreign rates.

You can bill your calls to your Advantage Calling Card, Call-Me Service, HELLO! Phone Plan or call collect. As a member of your local telephone company's long distance savings plan, you get even better rates. You can also use the card when using your modem.

Using the card also allows you to avoid hotel vouchers because the service is provided in hotels toll-free. You can make calls from your hotel room, or

FACTS ABOUT TRAVEL

- Travel to the United States has increased 40 percent.
- International travel has increased 25 percent.
- Domestic travel has decreased 10 percent.
- On average, companies spend \$8,500 per traveller per year, on travel and entertainment.
- Seven percent of companies use e-mail and four percent use on-line methods to book travel.
- 93 percent book by phone.
- 46 percent of the workforce takes at least one business trip each year.
- 62 percent of companies have a formal, written travel policy, compared to 46 percent in 1994.

Source: Aircanada and
Conference Board of Canada

DAILY COSTS

Here are some of the least expensive Canadian cities for business travellers, based on business-class single accommodations and three meals per day.

Hamilton, Ont.	\$97
London, Ont.	\$110
Edmonton	\$111
Ottawa	\$120
Montreal	\$130

Some of the most expensive international destinations include:

Hong Kong	\$452
Moscow	\$430
Buenos Aires	\$430
London, England	\$406
New Delhi	\$392
New York	\$380
Paris	\$359

Source: Randiwan International, US dollars



Hilton's Meeting 2000 conference and meeting rooms, currently available at the Toronto Airport Hilton and the Toronto Hilton.

from a public phone in the hotel lobby. For more information and special features call 1-800-561-8868 or www.ontario.ca/canada_drive

BUSINESS ACCOMMODATIONS

Frequent travellers are hostlers' lifeline. Hilton's Meeting 2000, currently available at the Toronto Airport Hilton and the Toronto Hilton, delivers an extensive range of conference and meeting rooms equipped

with state-of-the-art technology, dedicated support teams and a canny approach to food service.

"We accommodate over one million guests annually," says Mary Lawson, vice-president of Hilton's North America division. "In large part, many of those are business travellers. With the introduction of Meeting 2000, we provide the latest in executive business facilities."

All Meeting 2000 rooms feature such

amenities as individual climate control, extra telephone outlets and special menus with flexible service schedules. A full-service business centre is located at the heart of the conference rooms. Private offices, typing, photocopying, translation and courier services are all available, as well as access to fax machines, modems, the Internet and PCs with a wide range of software.

Business travellers need comfort and efficiency at their accommodations as the road. The Road Warrior survey reports that on overnight business trips, for instance, business travellers work 1.3 to 1.7 more hours per day than they do at the office. In addition, they get only 6.5 hours of sleep each night on average.

One way for guests to stay of the more than 900 Hilton, Hampton, Bally's, Conrad International and Vista hotels to make their trips more pleasant is to join the Hilton Hilton's Worldwide reward program. Members can bank points, air miles, hotel, travel, rental upgrades, merchandise and special privileges. Travellers join free on line at www.hilton.com

HOT LOCATIONS FOR CANADIAN EXPORT TRAVELLERS

Exports now account for more than 40 per cent of Canada's economic output. The Export Development Corp. (EDC) predicts a five percent rise in export activity in 1998, with lower growth next year reflecting a worldwide economic growth slowdown. The United States will continue as the primary source of growth for Canadian exporters while Australia in Europe and Japan offer little opportunity for increased export sales.

For a fast and easy way to get export information, visit the ExportSource Web site at <http://exp-sources.org>. Launched by Trade Canada Inc.'s trade promotion network, the site makes it easy for would-be exporters to access world markets. You can assess your firm's export-readiness, research potential markets and review foreign trade agreements with Canada.

The Web site's search engine can also provide links to appropriate government agencies, as well as direct marketing and export plans. Trade show listings and preparation guidance, financial assistance and government and private sector contacts are also available. Help is also available by calling 1-888-811-1119.

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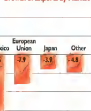
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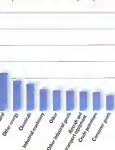
Canadian Airlines
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Growth of Exports by Market (%)



Source: Export Development Corp., 1996-97

Top Commodities for Export (\$ billion)



Source: Statistics Canada, 1997



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Wrongfully convicted ex-prisoners at Chicago conference, each declared, one by one, 'If the state had its way, I would be dead today'

WORLD SPECIAL REPORT

LUCKY TO BE ALIVE

Freed former death row inmates warn that the danger of a mistaken execution is growing

Although the 10 long years he spent in a cell on Illinois' death row, Rolando Cruz never doubted that one day he would prove his innocence. "I was too busy being mad," says Cruz, a stocky built man, 47, with crow's feet and a penetrating stare. "If I had ever doubted, they would have won." In 1983, based largely on what proved to be perjured testimony by police and pathologist informants, Cruz was sentenced to death for the brutal rape and murder of 19-year-old Jeanine Senechal. Senechal had kicked in the door of her home in Naperville, Ill., while she was alone with five. Her body was found in a ditch two days later. Months afterward, a race-baited Brian Dugas was arrested for a similar rape-murder—and confessed to killing Senechal as well. Cruz was granted a retrial, but restless prosecutors convinced the jury that he had helped Dugas, and so still deserved execution. It took years of public pressure, new DNA evidence and a police officer's admission of lying on the stand before Cruz was cleared and sent free in 1990.

Cruz's story is shocking, but not unique—and he's not alone. In the last 25 years, at least three 1/2 men and women have had their death sentences overturned and been set free—usually after years in prison behind bars. Some came within hours of execution. Now, with new

laws limiting appeals and recent funding cuts to legal aid, innocent death penalty opponents warn that the danger of mistakenly executing such wrongfully convicted people is growing.

The issue was highlighted at a dramatic conference in Chicago last week. The 1,200 participants included a who's who of top anti-death penalty litigators and activists, but the stars of the show were 28 of the wrongfully convicted ex-prisoners. At the conference's emotional climax, they strided on stage one by one, each declaring to a packed auditorium: "If the state had its way, I would be dead today."

More than 480 people have been executed since the United States reintroduced capital punishment in 1976, roughly the same time period in which the 75 condemned inmates were cleared. "This means one execution per six executions," says Barry Schick, a professor at New York City's Benjamin N. Cardozo law school and a longtime member of O. J. Simpson's defense team. "If you had to go to a hospital for a life-or-death operation, and found out that hospital misdiagnosed one out of every six cases, you'd run," says Schick. "It's an intolerable level of error, regardless of your views on a life-death penalty."

Canada, of course, has had no death penalty since 1976, although some left-wing party MPs and the Canadian Police Association advocate bringing it back. The Supreme Court is also considering whether to allow the extradition of Canadian-born life capital charges in their countries. But Canada has had its share of wrongful convictions. At least eight Canadians have had their sentences overturned in recent years, including Guy Paul Morin, David Milgaard, Donald Marshall and, in Nov. 5, Newfoundland's Gregory Dresser. Those cases show the danger of capital punishment, says Jeffrey Wray, who attended the conference with several other members of the Toronto-based

The Starr turn

Clinton's inquisitor defends his long probe

BY DAVID SHIRKMAN

Here's what didn't happen when the House Judiciary committee gathered last week in the ornate surroundings of Room 2338 of the Rayburn House Office Building, where a bipartisan group of lawmakers polished off three resolutions of impeachment against Richard M. Nixon: No surprises. No revelations. No explosions. No changes in anyone's viewpoint.

And most of all, no resolution to the tug-of-war facing the House of Representatives, namely how it is going to handle the 10-month-long epic of President Bill Clinton's private life too close.

Last week was the great confrontation in the Washington sex wars, the moment when the committee that has the power to recommend the removal of the President put his grand inquisitor at the witness table. For 15 hours, the proceedings dragged on, and when they ended, independent counsel Kenneth Starr's public image was a bit shiner—but the tensions dividing the two parties were a lot hotter. That was simply denied.

Strained the next day, when Starr's own ethics adviser, Watergate hero Sam Dook, resigned, saying the prosecutor compromised his office by making a Capitol Hill appearance to "advocate" impeachment. While the committee's Republican chairman, Henry Hyde, stoutly defended Starr's testimony—and Starr called Dook's position "a grave disavowal"—Democrats jumped on the resignation as further evidence for their long-held contention that Starr was following an anti-Clinton agenda.

None of which helped Congress with its biggest problem—finding a path out of the thicket of charges against the President. Since the midterm elections, when the hill-billy-conservative Republicans jumped on the resignation as further evidence for their long-held contention that Starr was following an anti-Clinton agenda.

that Congress would remove Clinton from office has very nearly disappeared. Starr's hearings appearance before the King of the Hill—he was calm, collected, cool and, as like some of his interrogators, coherent—put some fire back in the Clinton opposition. But not enough to change the political calculus in Washington, where a Congress that is determined to punish the President is also afraid to impeach him—and here's a clue, beyond a legally dubious censure mo-



The independent counsel testifies: Congress was still seeking a way out

tion, how to find a middle ground that will pass muster with the Republicans' right wing, constitutional scholars and the public.

"If they vote to let him off, that sends a real bad signal about how the laws in our country work," says Frank J. Luntz, a Republican pollster who is close to the new House leadership elected last week in the wake of Speaker Newt Gingrich's resignation. "But they have to punish him somehow. They need to keep politics away from it, and they need to finish this now."

Yet the Clinton scandal is a story that seems to defy closure. One of the most astonishing elements of Starr's testimony was his mention, almost as an afterthought, that the President had been cleared of some of the most dangerous charges against him, including the complex Whitewater land deal that was the original seed of the investigation. On

any other day, such a pronouncement would have prompted screaming headlines. And just when it seemed there were no more high heels to drop in the kitchen after sexual-wednesday Americans were presented with two more developments: the Judiciary committee's subpoena of several figures involved in the tangled claims of Kathleen Willey, who has alleged that the President groped her in the White House, and the release of audio-taped letters that publicize her claim that she was a victim of sexual harassment by the President's lawyer, Vernon Riffe.

After the hearing, polls showed Starr's performance had impressed many Americans. As he defended his legal tactics, his decision to include explicit reports of the President's sex acts in his landmark report and his willingness to subject the President, the presidency and the nation to continued scrutiny, Starr's dogged style shone through. He calmly stressed the weaknesses in the President's case as his rivals sought to mount a counterattack that included a charge from the leading Democrat on the committee, John Conyers of Michigan, that Starr had "crossed the line into obsession." Each time, Starr batted back, arguing that he wasn't interested in the President's sexual patterns but rather in patterns of what he called "obstruction of justice, lying under oath, tampering with witnesses and misuse of power."

A presidential impeachment effort is a rarity in the United States, the procedure without having been applied to Clinton has been delayed only twice before. Though some elements of Starr's investigation remain open, the most serious aspect of it is complete. So, with the 105th Congress set to expire in the first week of January, the great Washington wrangle is about to take its most telling turn, and perhaps its final one.

Newly elected House Speaker-to-be Bob Livingston, a Jersey Leaning Tower with no taste for history, made it clear last week that he wants the whole episode wrapped up by year's end. Almost nobody disagrees, except perhaps the talk-show hosts and the cable-TV entrepreneurs who have found this tawdry story of sex and power irresistible. Now, the congressional Republicans, who only weeks ago took to the campaign trail to proclaim they were unwilling to take the easy way out, are in an uncomfortable search for precisely that.

David Shirkman is Washington bureau chief for The Boston Globe.



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World NOTES

ISRAEL PULLS BACK

Israel reluctantly began withdrawing troops from the West Bank, giving the Palestinians full or partial control of an additional 9.1 per cent of the area. By the end of January, Palestinians are to control a total of 40 per cent of West Bank land, but support for the pullback was slipping in Israel. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition government. Speculation rose that he might call early elections.

VAN GOGH'S VALUE

A self-portrait painted by Vincent van Gogh in 1889 sold for \$111 million at Christie's auction house in London—the second-highest price ever paid for a painting by the Dutch artist and the third-highest ever for a piece of art at auction. Portraits of the Artist Without Beard, which van Gogh gave to his mother, sold to one of two anonymous telephone bidders whose battle topped the expected price.

HOME—TO JAIL

After a week-long hunger strike, two Canadian inmates convicted in the 1989 kidnapping of a Brazilian supermarket chain owner were finally returned to Canada. Cristian Lavaretti, 36, and David Spencer, 35, were sentenced to 28 years further into active detention. Under an agreement with Brazil, the pair will not be jailed in Canada.

LEONID FILLS THE SKY

Stargazers across the world admired the flames of red and white that streaked through the night sky during the greatest meteor shower in decades. But fears that the Leonid shower—called dust spreading along at 350,000 km/h—would damage some of the world's 600-plus satellites did not materialize.

SWITCHING HOSTAGES

A decision by Norbert Reinert, an executive with Grey Star Resources Ltd. of Vancouver, to switch places with an employee of his mining firm who was kidnapped by Colombian guerrillas has angered the Colombian government. Edward Leonard of Greater, B.C., was kidnapped at a mine site on June 24 and released 104 days later by Reinert. But Bogotá's top anti-terrorism official, Robert Dora Romero, said Reinert actually complicated Leonard's release and made it more difficult to secure the executive's freedom.

The new human rights crusader

When some of China's top students assembled to hear Prime Minister Jean Chretien at Beijing's Gushan University, they were expecting the usual bromides on the importance of economic ties. Instead, Chretien startled his audience by denouncing China's abysmal record of political repression. In fact, Chretien, who has been widely criticized at home for soft-pedaling on human rights, seemed at pains to portray himself as a crusader on the issue during his Asian tour last week. Earlier in the week at the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur, Chretien protested the selling of the parcel's ex-finance minister by refusing to meet privately with leader Mahatma Mohd. He also spoke directly to Mahatma about the issue as the two led a summit session.

In his speech in Beijing, the Prime Minister used the metaphor of a garden to evoke his newfound interest in the rights of the individual versus the state. "Water and sunlight are both essential," said Chretien. "We need to find a balance. The same is true of building a strong society." Chretien also directly raised the human rights question with Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji, who calmly suggested that his country "was very committed to a dialogue with Canada" on these issues. On two previous trips Chretien had barely raised the topic, and warmly greeted former premier Li Peng, architect of the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre. This time, Chretien spoke up forcefully. "I would be less than frank," he told the students. "If I did not say that many Canadians are disturbed when we hear reports from your country of the restrictions on the right to free expression."

Tiananmen: China's relaxed response to Chretien's points contrasted strongly with the elected Mahatma's outrage over criticism of the late former Malaysian finance minister Anwar Ibrahim. Anwar was fired from his job on Sept. 2, and faces a number of serious charges that his supporters say were trumped up to help Mahatma get rid of a rival, thereby an APCC donor for business leaders on the eve of the conference. Mahatma listened with dispassionate anger as U.S. Vice-President Al Gore spoke directly about political reform in the region. "We continue to hear calls for democracy in many languages," he said. "We hear them today—right here, right



Chretien at China: "Many Canadians are disturbed"

now—among the brave people of Malaysia."

Gore's strongly worded Chretien, whose aides had promised beforehand that he would raise the Anwar issue himself with the Malaysian leader as they sat next to each other in APCC sessions. But Mahatma proved hard to corner, and it wasn't until after a dinner meeting when the two leaders signed a declaration that Chretien got his chance to build a blunt exchange over Anwar's fate. "I told him we were not happy with the situation," said Chretien. "I said it would help if he could have him." Mahatma responded that it was up to the court, but he was already clearly fed by Chretien's barbs over human rights. At an earlier news conference, he said: "Canada once belonged to the red Indians, but I don't see them represented at APCC."

As for the flickering sentiments, their fall was to further liberate inside left many business people unhappy. "I'm very disappointed," said Tom d'Aquino, president of the Ottawa-based Business Council on National Issues. "You have to ask yourself, what is the value of the engagement?" Next year, at least, it is likely to meet under kinder circumstances—in Auckland, New Zealand.



Business

DRAMA OFFSTAGE

Theatre impresario Garth Drabinsky hailed the April 1989 arrival of a team of executives led by super-agent Michael Oviatt as a blessing. Sure, it meant that Drabinsky and his longtime partner Myron Gottlieb would have to relinquish control of Livent Inc., their Toronto-based live theatre company that Drabinsky clearly held Oviatt to high esteem—in his 1995 autobiography, *Closer to the Sun*, the Livent chairman and CEO had described him as “the supreme decisionmaker in Hollywood.” More important, Oviatt, American Executive Roy Furman and a group of investors would be getting \$300 million from Livent, bolstering the stellar fortunes of the company, which had produced such hit musicals as *Show Boat* and *Baggage* and helped make Toronto one of the world’s major theatrical centres. “I am finally able to do what I really want to do now, for the next 20 years of my life,” Drabinsky wrote, who dedicated to vice-chairman and chief creative director, told *National*’s “I am a happy man.”

A performance of *Phantom of the Opera* in Toronto. Drabinsky (right) Oviatt (left) Livent has gone from nothing thanks to Gottlieb's alchemy



committed a string of transgressions, stating that “Drabinsky and Gottlieb conducted their selves as an entirely dishonest and fraudulent manner throughout every aspect of their dealings with Livent.” It charges the pair with accepting \$2.5 million in kickbacks, keeping a hidden set of financial records and perpetrating a host of accounting irregularities. The claim goes so far as to accuse Gottlieb of embezzling \$6 million company annuity funds (valued at \$100,000 for his pensionable). None of the allegations has been proved in court. Along with the civil suit, Livent’s claims could also be raised in criminal court. RCMP spokesman Michele Brando says the Ministry is “in the preliminary stages of an investigation” into the company’s activities. In the United States, the FBI is also reported to be investigating. Meanwhile, the Ontario Securities Commission began an inquiry in August, and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has reportedly taken depositions from senior Livent accounting staff.

Once the dust of the world’s theatre community, Livent is now a disaster. On Nov. 18, the company was declared insolvent and filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. Livent also announced two years of restated financial results, wiping out \$85.1 million of earnings, along with \$304 million in debt and \$309 million in assets. On Nov. 18, after the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce released to external a \$36-million line of credit, the com-



Drabinsky and Livent trade lawsuits as the company files for protection

pany received an emergency bailout of \$86.5 million raised by seven Livent directors, including Oviatt and media mogul Conrad Black. It arrived the same day that Livent filed for protection from its 15,000 Canadian creditors under the Companies Creditors’ Arrangement Act. Furman places the responsibility for the company’s demise on Drabinsky and Gottlieb. “The massive scale of the accounting irregularities and inappropriate business practices uncovered at Livent has left us no choice but to file for protection,” he said in a written statement.

Drabinsky quickly answered Livent’s opening salvo. The afternoon after being hit, he filed a \$100-million suit against senior Livent players, including Oviatt and Furman. Gottlieb is also expected to file a claim. Drabinsky and Gottlieb called Livent’s resignation “an accounting sleight of hand.” They argue that Furman and other Livent executives conspired to wrestle control of the company from him and shift blame for the new management’s shortcomings onto the outgoing regime. “The lawsuit is a sustained effort to discredit Drabinsky and Gottlieb,” says Drabinsky spokesman David Wiener. “This is a way for them [Livent] to buy more time and build sympathy. The lawsuit allows them to make serious allegations that, were they not contained in a court document, would be considered libellous. They call it taking a bull by the horns, in spite of the fact that the bull is on the heads of previous management.”

The dispute isn’t just Livent’s new management team—headed by Furman, who replaced Drabinsky as the company’s chairman and CEO—claimed they discovered “accounting irregularities and inappropriate business practices.” On Aug. 10, trading in Livent stocks was halted on the Toronto Stock Exchange and later on the U.S.

A LIFE OF AMBITION AND BOMBAST

Garth Drabinsky hates to lose—and does anything he can to avoid it. Actor Christopher Plummer, in his foreword to Drabinsky’s 1995 autobiography *Closer to the Sun*, wrote that as a young child, Drabinsky was already alarming “to do battle with the future demons and dragons that would attempt to bar the gateway to his dreams.” Sure enough, when Drabinsky learned in 1965 that real Famous Players Inc. had not renewed a lease covering one half of a six-screen movie theatre in his name, he sued one of his most famous escapades. Drabinsky took over the leased space and brought in workers to fence off half the building, including the entrance. The move was in response to a sign Drabinsky left he had suffered from Famous Players’ his message, he said later, was “don’t ever, ever, ever try to hurt me again.”

Drabinsky’s life has seemed as improbable as some of the theatrical productions he has staged. He was a character given to bullying, bombast and boasting, with the ambition and drive to build two companies—Orion Odette and Livent—into huge successes, only to see each teeter on the edge of ruin. One of three sons of a middle-class Toronto family, Drabinsky contracted polio at age 3 and had to undergo severe operations, which left him with a permanent limp. He was drawn to entertainment as a distraction from his illness.

In his memoirs, he concluded that his major decisions in life were motivated by “ambition and fear and opportunity and desire.” But, he added “I don’t run on hate.” His present problems may provide the biggest test of that.

ANTHONY WILSON SMITH

Needay exchange. Drabinsky and Gottlieb were suspended shortly afterward. Livent then initiated an aggressive interest rate. The results, released last week, show a company on life support. Livent reported a second-quarter loss of \$45.8 million compared to a \$85 million net loss during the same period in 1997. On Nov. 20, the trade book was lifted and the market resumed trading, and sagging. Livent’s share closed that day at 49 cents, a far cry from the level of \$20 it was when it was imposed. Its market value in August was \$221 million, on Nov. 20 it was \$9.4 million. For the second time in a week, Moody’s Investors Service in New York City downgraded Livent’s debt, warning that the company could face liquidation. Livent also announced plans to sell off their four theatres in Toronto, Vancouver, Chicago and New York City.

Some doubt that the lawsuits will ever go to court. A lower class to raise a civil case. “The lawsuit is a way to buy more time and build sympathy. The lawsuit allows them to make serious allegations that, were they not contained in a court document, would be considered libellous. They call it taking a bull by the horns, in spite of the fact that the bull is on the heads of previous management.”

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ANDREW CLARK

landlords-on-site. "The top 30 or 35 stores are among the best in the country," says a retail analyst who's monitored the industry. The trouble is that the bottom 35 stores are so bad that the good ones barely make up for losses."

Then there is Eaton's marketing strategy. Last summer, as \$100 million in renovations were under way, the chain ran an expensive ad campaign in the mainstream media directed largely at teenagers and young adults. "However," says one of the satisfied, the tone was urban, punk. Other ads promoted Eaton's higher-fashion line, quietly shifting the focus to wealthier buyers. Many traditional customers were puzzled. Intimidated consumers were threatened, the chain had advertised its new look before it had set up its old stores. "Customers would walk into the stores and say, 'This is not what the ad looks like,'" says retail consultant Talbot. "Eaton's alienated all those middle-aged, middle-income customers that they should have been attracting."

In a harsh retailing climate, Eaton's is struggling to differentiate itself from the competition. At the same time, it has the added problem of ensuring that stores with widely different customer profiles receive differing mixes of goods. In effect, Eaton's must juggle the type and the price of goods in each store, depending on the market. As its four flagship stores in Toronto, Vancouver and Vancouver Island and its 160 suburban stores, many ads in the newspapers touted "Eaton's—the new store for fashion." Meanwhile, stores in smaller communities and less ritzy malls contained a higher percentage of more moderately priced goods. As Stephen Howell said, "We have to tailor our blend to each particular store."

Although Stephen added cautiously that the board would examine the merits of any takeover offer, analysts see few prospective buyers on the horizon—because few retailers would want to own underperforming stores. The most promising candidate is Whitecourt-based The Limited, which has a similar mix of discount and higher-end stores—but it has no plans to expand into Canada. Augustin MacInnes, director of the retail group at DeLoitte Consulting, believes buyers may be holding back until Eaton's insolvency bankruptcy protection and costs run out of control. "Right now, anyone who comes in here to buy the whole company," he says, "has to take the bankruptcy protection. Different buyers including Canadian department stores could pick off different stores, starting with the money-making ones. So there's an uncertainty here on how to make a public move." In such circumstances, Eaton's can only hope that it has an incomparably merry Christmas.



Passionate, but wrong

Last month, shortly after signing a new collective agreement with its 4,000 unorganized employees, Canadian National Railway Co. announced it was eliminating 3,000 jobs from its payroll. Labor leaders quickly expressed their outrage at the announced cuts. But observers wondered the company's hard line by immediately reducing its workforce. And within a week, coincidentally, C.N.'s top executive, Paul Teller, joined the cover of *The Montreal Post Magazine*, selected by voters as CEO of the year for 1998.

It is not the first time that a company's shares have appreciated as news of major layoffs or plant closures, according to a recently published memoir of C.N.W. president Buzz Hargrove, that phenomenon indicates just how far corporate and social agendas have diverged in Canada—and just how far the nation strayed from its humane, neo-corporate model that once prevailed.

In Hargrove's mind, there is no question who is to blame: "What the corporations have achieved is nothing less than the complete dismantling of the neo-corporate system that Canadians built over the past four decades," he writes. And at the heart of his book, *Laborer of Love*, is the argument that unions must play an increasingly political role. He believes it is no to them to address the growing disparity in Canadian society because "our democratic, justly elected government has been overthrown by a corporate parasite."

In Hargrove's view, "The CWF" is a social movement because you can't leave the remedy for social damage to those who have caused it. But Hargrove's anger extends well beyond the demonstrations that labor unions have always received support from the Big Business, the Liberal and Progressive Conservative parties. In fact, his remark underscores his disillusionment with the New Democratic Party, which once served as the left-wing conscience of Canada and champion of the underdog. Recently, he has criticized the federal wing of the NDP for its decision to seek state ownership with the health care community, to explore and develop new means of common ground. But in *Laborer of*

Love, he reserves scathing words for Bob Rae's former NDP government in Ontario. "In my estimation, nothing has done more to damage the cause of social democracy in Canada than the last government."

Hargrove is an angry man. The book's account of the grinding poverty of his childhood provides some context for a rage that he admits to striking by reading the business sections of Canada's daily newspapers. Nor is there any question that such a passionate opponent of the status quo is always a viable contemporary, and especially so at a time when consensus heavily favors unfettered capitalism.

But Hargrove's assumption that political unions are an answer to Canada's socioeconomic problems is flawed. Union leaders are elected by their members to represent them and their specific interests in the work place. Although he agrees strongly that unions should be "a force of social change,"

he does not believe they are directly shaping the policies that affect the communities where their members live, the union mandate does not automatically extend beyond the narrow sphere of workers' bargaining issues such as pay, working conditions or job security. The blunt fact is that if labor unions were as appealing politically to their leaders like to claim, the NDP—which has almost always rejected their formal support—would be far more than the marginal force that it is today federally.

Moreover, by their very nature, unions represent a vested interest. Just like the corporations that Hargrove excoriates, unions have a stake in perpetuating themselves, in advancing policies that will allow them to profit in some way. That interest, ultimately, that Teller and Hargrove probably have more in common than either would like to acknowledge. Each is charged with securing optimum benefit for the people he works for.

For the most part, that gives the financial class of employee pension plans, leaders of the "corporate junta," such as Teller, actually work for the very interests that Hargrove represents the long-term security of workers in the dwindling financial world of the 1990s. It may still be true that you cannot always have it both ways—but that does not mean unionized workers will not try

The grinding poverty of Hargrove's childhood provides context for his rage

A PROFITABLE YEAR

The big banks appear headed for another good year after both the Royal Bank and Toronto-Dominion Bank reported record profits for 1998. The Royal announced yearly earnings of \$1.82 billion, a nine-per-cent increase over last year. TD's annual profit of \$1.12 billion was a new high for the company, but its increase from a year earlier was a more muted three per cent. The two are the first of the country's six big banks to report. Others will come over the next two weeks.

A FORMAL REJECTION

Not surprisingly, the board of directors at Sun Media Corp., publisher of the Sun newspaper chain, has recommended against the hostile takeover bid by Torstar Corp., which owns The Toronto Star. Sun Media says the \$16-million bid, now valued at \$776 million, does not reflect its recent newspaper acquisitions in southern Ontario, including Hamilton's *The Spectator* and The London Free Press, and would create a near-monopoly in provincial advertising markets.

BUTTING OUT

A \$300-billion tobacco agreement in the United States, which will fund a national anti-smoking campaign and cigarette advertising on billboards, is expected to be signed by U.S. President Bill Clinton and Canadian Prime Minister Jean Charest this week. The accord also obliges Congress to move ahead with other restrictions, such as giving the Food and Drug Administration authority to regulate tobacco. The deal has been tentatively approved by all states except the four that have already settled, and cigarette makers say they will accept it.

THE GOVERNOR'S VIEW

Bank of Canada governor Gordon Brown says the issue has fallen because of the drop in commodity prices and a worldwide rush to U.S. assets in the face of world financial turmoil. Nonetheless, he said, shouldn't "we think about living with this low dollar?"

INDEXES BY SAP

The Toronto Stock Exchange is working on a deal to have Standard and Poor's Corp. take over management of the TSX's benchmark 300-stock composite index, after the U.S. company the right to set up new index of 60 stocks to replace both the TSX 35 and 300 indexes.

A long strike finally ends

Forecast giant Alinta-Consolidated is back in business after the end of a five-month strike that shut down 60 of its 14 Canadian mills. Newspaper production is still set to ramp up by the end of this week, as the Montreal-based company tries to regain lost customers in a tight market. Alinta will continue the book aggressively, company chairman Ronald Oberlander said, by bringing production back to pre-strike levels—about a fifth of North American supply. Oberlander said that his competitors will have to start out of the gate if they do not want to lose jobs.

The contract is expected to be a pattern for 25,000 paperworkers at other companies east of Montreal. The Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union, representing 4,000 Alinta workers in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick, received a 74 per cent raise in the strike deal. Both sides said they were happy with the agreement. The contract was six years of labor peace and the union kept a single contract for Alinta's mills, one of its key issues. Workers will get a lump-sum payment for this year and salary hikes of about two per cent for each of the next five years. The average hourly wage before the strike was \$25. The strike began on June 15.



Protesters at a Quebec mill, and now back to work

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Philip restructures

Battered Philip Services Corp. has bowed to shareholder pressure from its creditors and agreed to a reorganization plan negotiated by American Investor Carl Icahn, who holds 14 per cent of the company's debt. It includes an understanding by Philip that it will launch insolvency proceedings and surrender control to creditors while shareholders would retain 20 per cent of their current stake in the company.

The company also announced that co-founder Allen Prosser, who left his position last year, is returning as chief executive officer. Icahn pushed Philip into the deal after it reported disastrous third-quarter losses of \$88.1 million and announced that it would seek insolvency protection on its bank debt of \$1.1 billion. The company, which has been hit by trading scandals and allegations that it broke environmental laws, employs 12,000 people in Canada, the United States and Europe.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Is a problem that has been in the making for some time. In the few weeks, the Bank of Canada cut its key interest rate by a quarter of a percentage point, setting a cut made one day earlier by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board. The American agency has trimmed rates several times in the last year as an effort to stimulate the U.S. economy and head off a full-scale world recession. Economists predict that the cuts will contribute to

inflation in Canada has allowed the central bank to act without fear of overheating the economy.

"This year's sharp deflationism in consumer confidence, combined with a weakening

underlying trend in job creation, suggest that rates actively will moderate further in 1999, particularly in the face of record high consumer debt burdens and record low consumer savings."

—Scottbank

LOW INFLATION

Percentage change in the cost of living for October 1998 compared with October 1997

All items	1
Food	1.4
Shelter	1.5
Household durables	0.7
Consumer services	0.8
Transportation	-0.7
Health/personal care	2.4
Recreation/education/travel	1.8
Medical services	2.8

"The Dow soared well above \$5,000 this week for the first time since July, recovering almost 90 per cent of its losses. A series of stimulus package by many nations triggered this rebound in confidence, including cuts in interest rates, taxes, and government spending."

—Nesbitt Burns



Peter C. Newman

True tales from the book-tour trade

One November, like autumn leaves blown in the wind, we authors tour the Canadian heartland, quipping our meager literary offerings to an indifferent public. Though most writers don't think of themselves as entrepreneurs, that's what they are, risking three or more years, sleeping away, to create a \$35 product that nobody really needs.

To somehow encourage Canadians to purchase these supposed signs of our revered psyches is, of course, the purpose of the annual book tour. Once we hit the road, uniquely shy and delinquent writers who think it's daring to use an adverb turn into obnoxious gladiators. Our Spontaneous spirit is expressed in everything from harassing our publishers for more advertising dollars to storming stores and making phone calls to editors. (We remain convinced—seriously, as it turns out—that once they are thus desecrated, bookstores can no longer return the unsold volumes to publishers for refunds.)

Once, when I was on the promotion trail with Penguin publisher Sarah Thring in 1985 (I arrived at a small Kingston, Ont., bookstore at noon. It was deserted; customers and staff, so I signed all my books and left, often wondering afterwards what went through the proprietor's head when he returned. (Thring also once had the distinction of chairing a famous hockey player who was flapping his autobiography. While on one occasion that he had actually written it, the problem was he hadn't read it either and couldn't answer any questions about the interesting life some ghostwriter had concocted for him.)

Another favorite trick while on these tours is to visit bookstores and pile one's book in front of a man's offering, hoping that impulse shoppers will grab your volume first. My career since has been promising Times: *How the New Canadian Establishment Seized Power*, is my 20th journey around the circuit. It doesn't get any easier. A typical day starts with a prodigious interview—once sharing the waiting room with Preston Manning and his wife, Sandra, who tried to convert me to their "bade the night" cause. The day ends with an after-dinner speech and autograph session before falling into a strange bed. It's like being a rock star without any groupies.

There was a time, not so long ago, when part-time radio and TV interviewers who took us in impromptu under their talkative wings had actually read our books and could discuss their finer attributes and more obvious flaws. My favorite interviewer was Jack Webster, the Scottish laird who then ruled over BCITV in Vancouver. His morning shows were so popular that they changed the city's traffic pattern, as people stayed home to hear his morning sign-on at 9 a.m. (precisely.) When I published one of my previous volumes on the Canadian Establishment in 1981, Webster began his

show by holding *The Aspiration* in front of him and barking into the camera lens: "There here in my hands," followed by a dramatic pause and then, "a scurrilous book . . . I say, a SCURRILIOUS book!" No author can ask for a higher commendation than that.

Another highlight along the route in those vintage days was being interviewed by Brenda Carrington, who laid the only talk show on 1260-Fm, an upstart country AM station on the outskirts of Winnipeg. Authors would arrive expecting the usual once-over-lightly kind of interview to find that Jenny had laid all but one no-rund-the-books. More than once, I had to ask her to stop the tape so I could check something in my book she had just asked me to explain. (She wanted to be the next Barbara Frum, but instead married a Winnipeg millionaire and retired from broad-casting.)

Winnipeg was also memorable as the city where Caru Operations Ltd. purchased the airport bookstore and transferred some of its food-services employees to run the place. It was, for a time, the world's only bookstore whose clerks wore hairnets and who were rumored to take stock of the books every Friday evening just in case they might go bad over the weekend.

The odd interviewer still reads the books that avalanche through their mail slots. But much more often, as some television white-kid—whose mere qualifications seem to be teased hair and glowing molten—settles in for "the interview," you hear that awful "crack" when the book's binding is stretched for the first time. So often now, authors are relegated to a table six minutes on daytime variety shows with preoccupied hosts, giving them no chance for a dialogue.

And then there are the reviews. Mostly they're sympathetic or at least understanding to what their position personal leads by confirming the author for having the nerve to publish a book so shoddy it is not worth the trees that grew it. I've suffered from that kind of disbelated butchery and will never understand why critics don't review the book instead of the author.

My favorite memory of new book reviewing works in this country concerns Larry Zell, a knowledgeable Winnipegger familiar with the Winnipeg family story, who turned down the request of *Saturday Night* to review my 1978 book on the powerful dynasty. Later, when I asked him why, he took quite offense: "I couldn't review your book," said he. "I liked it."

But book tours are not all sweat and worry. It is incredibly rewarding to meet your readers, knowing that there is an audience out there for those hard-won perceptions that never make books. The best part of these literary excursions is being out among real people, away from the literary, sharing the joys of being a writer and a Canadian.



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FINANCIAL PLANNING is a continuous process which looks at where you are now and where you want to be at different stages in the years ahead. It involves developing realistic financial objectives and setting priorities as to which goals to target first. It maps out the strategies necessary for reaching those objectives, the specific means of implementing the plan and the ongoing monitoring of your progress towards your goals. For example, you may have retirement income as a goal. A financial plan will help you determine the amount of income you will need at retirement, how much you should set aside each year to meet that goal, suitable types of investments and specific investment alternatives.

The complexity of your financial planning should be a reflection of your unique situation. For some people a plan may involve a complete financial makeover starting with a basic budget and a debt-reduction program. For others, it might consist of addressing specific details such as disability insurance needs or estate planning.

A complete financial plan will begin with an analysis of your current situation. A financial planner will:

- examine your assets, liabilities and spending habits
- scrutinize your life and disability insurance
- check the coverage on your home

and automobile

- review your tax planning, retirement planning and estate planning measures and your investments
- determine your understanding of investment ups and downs and establish the level of risk you are willing to accept

"The complexity of your financial planning should be a reflection of your unique situation."

- ask you detailed questions about your financial goals and concerns
- work with you to set realistic objectives and a timetable based on your priorities

Your choice of financial planner

will reflect your needs and you will have to determine what sort of planner is most suitable for you. If, for instance, your primary concern is getting out of debt you should probably seek out a fee-for-service financial planner who will charge you an hourly rate to review your situation and make recommendations. That person would be much more suitable than someone whose primary business is investments and who is paid solely on a commission basis. If your planning requirements involved a family business, several generations and domestic and foreign assets, you would likely seek out a different type of fee-for-service planner. In this case you would probably use several planners including tax accountants and lawyers. These would work with insurance specialists who would almost certainly be paid commissions and with investment experts who might be fee-for-service, such as investment counselors, or paid on commissions like stockbrokers. Most banks offer financial planning services too, ranging from financial counselling to full-scale strategies involving trust services and investments. Many financial planners work on either a fee-for-service basis or commission basis. They can prepare a plan on a fee-for-service basis and you would be free to take it elsewhere for implementation. Alternatively they could prepare the

plan on the basis of earning commissions on its implementation.

You can, of course, create your own plan, and use advisers where you lack the essential skills or direct access to financial products such as insurance. You can keep track of your spending, investments and progress towards your goals with one of the many computer software packages or Internet services aimed at the home market.

CHOOSING A PLANNER

It is up to you to determine what services a specific adviser or planner offers. If you want a financial planner, start by asking whether the person is in fact a financial planner rather than someone whose interests and practice is confined to a single area of financial advice such as tax accounting, investments or insurance. If the person is a financial planner, ask what range of services his or her firm provides and how he or she is paid. You should also ask what types of clients the planner

Check the credentials

Only Quebec regulates the use of the term financial planner. Outside of that province, where financial planners must be members of the *District québécois de planification financière*, anyone can call himself or herself a financial planner. As a result, you should look for one of several designations as an indication of professional proficiency and expertise in the areas required for a financial plan.

The key organizations involved are the Financial Planners Standards Council, the Institute of Canadian Bankers and the Canadian Securities Institute. The three organizations have some differences of opinion as to what should be the standards for financial planners and, in fact, the CIB and CSI withdrew from the FPSC over these differences earlier this year. However, their course curricula are quite similar.

The **Financial Planners Standards Council** issues the Certified Financial Planner or CFP designation to individuals who meet its educational and experience requirements and who subscribe to the FPSC's code of ethics. Its seven members are the Canadian Association of Financial

Planners, the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Canadian Institute of Financial Planners, the Certified General Accountants Association of Canada, the Credit Union Institute of Canada, the Canadian Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, and the Society of Management Accountants of Canada. The FPSC does not offer educational courses, leaving that to its members and several universities and community colleges.

The **Institute of Canadian Bankers** has its own educational programs in financial planning. Its senior designation is the PFP or Personal Financial Planner. The **Canadian Securities Institute** offers its Professional Financial Planning course as part of its requirements towards its Canadian Investment Management or CIM designation.

Many financial planners have additional designations to indicate expertise in specific areas. For instance, tax experts would often have an accounting designation, while individuals with insurance expertise would have the CLU and ChFC designations.

has so you can decide whether your circumstances are similar to those of the firm's current clients.

In the case of planners paid on a commission basis, it is also important to know what types of products the organization sells and whether it is registered with any government agency. Registration is a must if the organization sells securities, mutual funds or insurance. You would be wise

to avoid anyone who proposes strategies with specific investments yet has no registration.

Fee-for-service financial planners will usually not be registered with a provincial regulator unless they provide advice on specific securities. You should, however, choose a fee-for-service planner who holds membership in one or more professional organizations, such as the Canadian

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Association of Financial Planners, an accounting institute or society or a provincial bar association.

Whether they are fee-for-service, salaried or on commission, review potential advisers' qualifications and experience. You generally want someone who has a minimum of several years' experience. Ask about professional designations and continuing education. The rules keep changing so it is important that anyone advising you on financial matters is making the effort to keep up to date. Make sure that when you require specialized advice, your adviser has specialized training.

If you require investments, ask how the adviser or the organization arrives at his recommendations. And before buying any investments, make sure

that the adviser has provided you with a full explanation of the risks you face and why a specific investment might be suitable for your needs.

Ask who will handle your account and how often you will be contacted. Much of the day-to-day work of an adviser will be delegated to others within the organization. Nevertheless you will want assurances that the adviser you deal with will be responsible for reviewing your plan on an ongoing basis.

Ask for proposals in writing and when you do open your account ask for copies of any forms you complete for your files.

HOW ADVISERS ARE PAID

Your financial planner or adviser is compensated in one of three ways, fee-for-service, salary or commission.

Fee-for-service advisers charge a fee to provide you with advice or to perform a specific service. For

instance, you might pay a financial planner an hourly fee to review your situation and construct a plan. The planner may implement the plan on

your behalf but will not receive any additional compensation based on the sale of financial products. For some services you will pay a fee based on percentage of assets—for instance, investment consulting fees and estate trust services.

Salaried advisers include those individuals in the banking system who provide financial planning advice, and client service representatives employed by no-load mutual fund organizations. The employers pay the salaries but the employees may earn commissions when you buy products.

Commission advisers are paid a commission based on their sales. Examples include stockbrokers, insurance salespeople and mutual fund sales representatives.



IF YOUR ADVISER DID NOT CALL ABOUT THE STOCK MARKET DECLINE

You have a right to expect a call from your adviser when something happens which has an impact on your financial plan, such as the summer's slump in stock market prices which in turn had an impact on mutual fund unit values and the net worth of most investors.

If you did not get a call, do not panic. Market cycles are a fact of economic life and market levels tend not only to recover but to move to even higher levels. Also, declining markets can be a positive event if you have cash to invest or if your equity mutual funds have cash which their managers can invest. Moreover, a properly constructed financial plan would consider investment risk and would limit exposure to equities when income or security of capital are more important than long-term appreciation.

If you do not know how the decline has affected your financial plan and your adviser has not called you, you

Look at offshore planning with caution

More than a few Canadians have turned to advisers to inquire about moving assets offshore and there are legitimate reasons and legal methods to keep assets offshore and there are ways of structuring your affairs to minimize taxes on the income these assets generate. If this is your choice, you are best off seeking the advice of experts in this field. These will almost certainly include accountants and lawyers familiar with the rules and regulations of "tax havens" and other countries which have favorable tax structures for foreigners as well as American Canadians. Views on these matters, since you have the advice, there is a slew of organizations based offshore willing to manage your money, including affiliates of Canadian banks and investment consultants as well as international banks that specialize in offshore trust and investment services.

Moving money offshore is a strategy not just for the rich. More and more financial advisers are being asked for recommendations about how to minimize tax on RRSP and pension income while living in a warmer climate.

should call him to find out whether you should be concerned. Take your RRSP for example. If you are a couple of decades away from retirement, the decline will likely have little long-term impact; you have many more years of contributions and growth in which to recover. However, if you are only a few years away from needing retirement

income, any severe change in the value of your holdings could have an impact on your retirement lifestyle. Your adviser will be able to tell you whether your mix of investments is suitable for a declining market or whether you should be increasing your RRSP contributions or adjusting your expectations.

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YOUR NEEDS CHANGE WITH AGE

Your financial planning priorities will change as you get older. As a result, you should be prepared to adjust your plan on a continuous basis. For example, the priority of someone just starting his career might be budgeting and cash management to pay off student loans and car loans. A few years after that, he and his spouse might be concerned about paying down their mortgage and setting aside funds for their children's education. A decade later their concerns would include having adequate retirement savings. Depending on their circumstances they might be looking at permanent life insurance rather than the less expensive term insurance that was suitable in the first years of their marriage. Ten years after that as their children leave home they would likely adjust their savings rate to fine tune their retirement savings, investment programs and estate planning.

Estate planning, however, is required for everyone. Like other aspects of a financial plan, it will

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

Your bank wants your financial planning business

If you are a professional, entrepreneur or executive earning \$100,000 plus and have a six-figure net worth, you have likely been approached by a bank to get financial planning as a private banking customer. Private banking is based on the establishment of a one-on-one relationship between yourself and the private banker who is responsible for understanding your specific financial situation and helping you meet your goals. Private banking's development stems from the erosion of the four financial pillars and the major banks' expansion of their business to include trust services, investments and insurance.

Your account manager will almost certainly have completed the Canadian Securities Course and have obtained or be working towards his or her Certified Financial Planner or Professional Financial Planner designation. He or she will have an expert knowledge of all of the bank's products and services and will work with your other advisers when required.

While the range of services you get from private banking are, in fact, also available through the branch network, the difference is in the way they are integrated by your account manager. He or she will work with investment specialists at the bank's investment dealer subsidiary. If the size of your account or specific situation demands discretionary investment management, your account manager will deal with the bank's investment counselling subsidiary.

There are, however, some limits to the integration of services, particularly where there is the potential for conflicts of interest. For example, if you require a loan for investments, perhaps to buy your bank's mutual funds, your loan application must be reviewed and approved by someone other than the account manager responsible for the investment recommendation. Similarly, your account manager is more likely to refer you to the bank's life insurance subsidiary than to sell you coverage directly.

change with marriage, divorce, birth of children and grandchildren and accumulation of wealth. Everyone should have a will, and the will should be revised to reflect life's changes. Estate planning, however, goes far beyond that. The complexity of the tax rules virtually requires that people with substantial assets take measures to maximize the amounts that can be passed to the next generation and use such devices in their plans as estate freezes or trusts depending on their unique circumstances. Even something as basic as a bequest to a charity involves financial planning expertise to maximize the

benefit to the charity and minimize the tax impact to the estate because of recent changes in tax legislation.

"The complexity of the tax rules virtually requires that people with substantial assets take measures to maximize the amounts that can be passed to the next generation."

NEW RULES BETTER PROTECT INVESTORS

You will not be reading much in the future about all-expenses-paid mutual fund sales conferences in exotic locales. New sales practices rules initiated by the fund industry and adopted by securities regulators in all provinces on May 1 eliminated some sales incentives in the mutual fund industry and restricted others. With compensation limited to commissions, investors do not have to worry that an advisor is recommending a specific fund because of an incentive rather than because it is the best choice for the investor.

Mutual fund management companies can still hold sales conferences provided they follow some strict rules. The conferences must be held in Canada or the continental United States and be educational, covering only topics related to funds, securities and financial planning. The fund company cannot invite who it wishes. That choice is left to the fund dealer. These sales representatives who do attend must pay their own travel, personal and accommodation expenses. Fund dealers who sponsor sales conferences can get financial support from fund companies for a portion of costs relating to the educational aspects of the conference. But they cannot get any financing towards travel and accommodation expenses. Fund companies can also pay for part of an educational seminar covering

mutual funds. But their participation must be disclosed to the other participants and the dealer must pay a minimum of half the costs.

Sarven G. Rikman is co-author with Gary Teichgraber of *Choosing the Best Financial Advisor for You*.



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PERSONAL FINANCE

Sex sells—to a point

BY JAMES DEACON

I was an otherwise routine day at the Prince George, B.C., airport last week when Katarina Witt, the winsome and curvaceous German figure-skating star, sparked a rush to the newsstand in Canada to peruse with *Elvis Stajko's* *Come to the Champion*. Witt was waiting with other skaters for a flight to Calgary when she was recognized by several passersby. Little wonder: a decade after winning her last of two Olympic gold medals, the 32-year-old ice princess posed nude for a pictorial in the current December issue of *Playboy*. Word spread. In it, Witt was in the airport too, without skates, fans bought every remaining copy of *Playboy* from the airport shop's shelves and lined up to have their photographs before she boarded the flight. "It was a bit crazy," said Elliott Kerr of the Lansdowne Sports Group, one of the tour's promoters. "But it has been that way everywhere we go."

Fame has its ups and downs. The *Elvis Tour* has struggled to attract attention and audiences in Canada since it was first launched in 1984, yet this time it's hot stuff. Although Stajko, the three-time world champion from Newmarket, Ont., has a strong following, it's Witt who is causing the sensation. But in the hype-mad world of sports marketing, not all sex sells—and that is what worries Brian Oser. Last week, a Toronto court denied a bid by Oser, the 36-year-old Canadian skating star, to ban publication of details from a nasty paternity suit launched by a former lovee. Oser has always been discreet about his homosexuality because many sponsors worry about public relations or product sales if they openly gay performers. "Brian's sexuality may not be a problem inside the skating world or in the big cities," said one agent, "but it is naive to suggest that it isn't one in the boardrooms."

So much for the free and open 1990s. Coming out has recently been an asset for actors in TV sitcoms and for stand-up comedians, but the vast majority of gay athletes—particularly in the homophobic sphere of team sports—still feel they have to keep their sexuality private. They fear being ostracized by their peers, and they can't afford the anticipated loss of earnings from endorsements and corporate sponsorships. They cite the experience of Martina Navratilova, who in mid-career made public the fact that she was a lesbian. Perhaps the greatest female tennis



While Katarina Witt can flaunt her sexuality, many gay athletes hide theirs



Oser and Witt in Ottawa, Stajko and Witt in Calgary (left): a double standard

player of all time, Navratilova retired in 1994 without a single non-equipment endorsement contract.

Agents take this as a warning, and caution clients against coming out. Oser seemed to agree, stating in his court submission that some skaters had to "guard their privacy closely because of the likely impact of public disclosure on their careers." But corporate concerns isn't restricted to homosexuality. For some sponsors, overt sexuality of any kind is a no-no. Marlboro has learned that packaged foods giant General Mills decided not to sponsor the *Elvis* show after it learned Witt's *Playboy* issue would be on newsstands while the tour was on. Brooks/Golder, senior vice-president of marketing for the company, would not comment on why the company opted for another skating show, but one tour insider said the company decided breakfast cereals and *Playboy* didn't mix. "I

was shocked that they wanted to pull out," said one tour official, who asked to remain anonymous. "I mean, the pictures are very tasteful."

Witt and Oser both made news last week with *Elvis*. They were shown together in the 200th, fighting as the Calgary double-double with spectacular Olympic performances that propelled figure skating to unrecognized heights of popularity. Witt, then of East Germany, and Oser, a native of Belleville, Ont., both had style, good looks and grace under the watering pressure of a Winter Games (he was gold, he took silver). After losing the narrow finals, they helped develop more mature ice shows and competitions that legitimized professional skating. The subsequent boom in the sport made them rich. Witt has a home in her native Berlin and just sold a lush apartment in New York City because she spends more time in Los Angeles, pursuing an acting ca-

reer. Oser, meanwhile, has headlined TV specials and tours, cosigned in pro events and worked as an analyst on skating broadcasts (he also reported for *Madison* at the 1992 Albertville Games). He owned a home in the posh Toronto neighborhood of Rosedale before moving in 1997 to Ottawa. Accustomed since her teens to mass attention and adulation, Witt is completely at ease with her latest notoriety. *Playboy* had made several offers to her before, she says she agreed to pose only after negotiating full artistic control. Early reports estimated that Witt was paid \$150,000 for the pictorial, but well-informed sources told *Madison* that she was guaranteed more than \$750,000 and should earn well in excess of \$1 million based on a clause that pays her a percentage of book newsstand sales. Witt told *Madison* it was sadly ironic that she is profiting handsomely from her sexuality, while her old friend Oser stands to lose because of his. On top of that, Oser's ex, Craig Lesk, a project manager for the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, is demanding \$5,000 a month, ownership of Oser's cottage and half the proceeds from the sale of the Rosedale home. "I feel for Brian because he is such a wonderful person," Witt said. "Within skating, of course, it is not a secret. But outside, there is a society that still has problems with people who are gay."

In another irony, many companies are beginning to run sales campaigns of the gay community, a demographic group with comparatively high disposable income. Michael Gombick, executive vice-president of the Toronto-based gay marketing agency Lang & Associates, says sexuality has nothing to do with targeting those groups. "Both Molson and Labatt sponsored the Gay Pride parade this year in Toronto," says Gombick. "Why? Because guys drink beer, too."

Still, closeted athletes are likely to pay for the time being. Particularly in amateur sports, competitors cannot afford to lose any of the money-making opportunities that come their way. As a result, other gay athletes understand Oser's bid for a publication ban. "I feel badly for Brian that he had to go through a process to get his picture in it's away to him," one gay athlete said. "But I think there's an attitude towards guys that promotes sports, and that's really sad."

Last week's legal disclosures may not hurt Oser. Missing the end of a career in which he won two world championships, two Olympic silver medals and eight Canadian titles, he may actually gain popularity because of the coverage generated by news that he is being sued. "I believe that the next time Brian skates, he'll get an even greater ovation than he usually gets," says Lansdowne's Kerr. "There's a lot of support out there for the gay, and that just enhances his visibility." For Oser, that might be the greatest coup of all. □

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Science

1998: A space odyssey

Part 1 of the
space station goes
into orbit



NASA depiction of station
Pyrotek (South American)

It was a scene hardly unlike the final spectacle of the U.S. space shuttle on its launching pad, embraced by a gantry and tended by snarling technicians. At Baikonur last week, on the windswept plains of southern Kazakhstan, a Russian Proton rocket stood in lonely splendor during the countdown for a launch that would inaugurate a new era in space. Then at 11:40 a.m. local time, brilliant orange flames blossomed as the Proton majestically rose and vanished into the overcast Asian sky. Nine minutes and 49 seconds later, 200 km above the earth, the rocket's third stage separated, placing a spacecraft into orbit. Named Zarya (Russian for dawn), the two-toned craft will not be alone for long. If all goes well, over the months and years ahead, U.S. and Russian missions will add pieces to Zarya to construct the 450-tonne International Space Station (ISS)—a sprawling assembly of laboratories, living space, service areas and solar panels the size of two football fields.

The Baikonur launch culminated years of debate, delay and misstarts. The massive project, scheduled for completion in 2004, is a Russian effort led by the United States, with Russia as a major partner and 11 European nations, Brazil, Canada and Japan contributing equipment and financial support. The first U.S. built component is to go into space next week when the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) shuttle, Endeavour, blasts off from Cape Canaveral carrying the U.S.-built central docking hub, Unity. In the initial construction phase, three Canadian astronauts—Juhé Pyrotek, Marc Garneau and Chris Hadfield—will go into space aboard shuttle flights, and Hadfield will become the first Canadian to foot stride in orbiting relocks and work in space.

First proposed under President Ronald Reagan in 1984, the project has been threatened over the years by opposition in the U.S. Congress. More recently, Russia's economic collapse led to two postponements of the flight lifting Zarya into space. With the project finally under way, there was an over-whelming sense of relief at NASA's Houston headquarters. "We've been looking at this thing for so long," said a NASA spokesman. "And now, at last, it's happening."

Building the station will be a monumental undertaking, cost-

ing—according to varying estimates—anywhere from \$20 billion to more than twice that amount, and involving 15 space flights by U.S. shuttles and Russian rockets. The principal elements in Canada's \$1.4-billion contribution make up a sophisticated system that will play a crucial role in constructing and servicing the station. The crane, under construction by Toronto-based Spar Aerospace and sub-contractors across Canada, include a 17 metre-long arm that is an advanced version of the workhorse Canadians used aboard NASA's shuttles. As well, Spar is supplying a smaller two-armed robot and a platform that will run on rails so that the arms can move into position at almost any point on the station.

When Pyrotek, a 35-year-old Montrealer, flies into space next May aboard the shuttle Discovery, she will be part of the second mission flight to the ISS. Pyrotek, who was at Baikonur with officials of the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) for the Russian launch, will be in charge of transferring tons of equipment, including food, clothing and medical supplies for the first permanent crew members who go aboard the station in the year 2000. Experts say that as in any huge building project, construction in space is likely to have its accidents. That is apparently not what Pyrotek fears. "We know the risks—we always plan and train for failure," she told Maclean's. "But that's not what we think about. We're working up to what is regarded as one of the more of a concrete—it keeps me on my toes."

When Hadfield goes into space in April 2000, his mission will carry Spar's new remote manipulator system. He will have the lead role in getting the system into position and locking it onto the space station. To install the arm, Hadfield said, he will probably have to venture into space three times. "To me, it's all like a surrealistic script for a movie," he said, "except that it's really happening."

Expecting, that is, providing that Russian headaches do not worsen irretrievably. With the Russian space agency virtually broke, NASA is underwriting construction of the second Russian component—a service module to be launched in July—to the tune of about \$1 billion. Still, for Alan Poirier, the CSA official in charge of Canada's contribution to the space station, or for others with a vested interest, the rationale is clear. "We need to do this," says Poirier, "so that mankind can reach Mars and the planets beyond."

MARK NICHOLS

One of a kind



Becoming human

BY JOHN INEMROSE

In a windowless conference room high in a Toronto office building, Jean Vanier is talking to a reporter about *Voices*. "The whole point of our world is the pain of walls," he says in a softly measured voice. "I mean the kind of walls erected between rich and poor, between Blacks and Palestinians, between the Pentagon and its citizens, between the handicapped and others." It is an archaic topic, but there is a sparkle in the grey-blue eyes. The 73-year-old Canadian founder of L'Arche—a French-based, international organization that looks after the needs of the universally handicapped—leans forward intently as he speaks. Suffering from a cold, he has not removed the fuzzy nylon jacket and wears scarf that seems pure protection from the harsh November weather. But his craggy face glows with a quality at once contented and engaged.

Vanier has spent more than three decades breaking down the walls that separate society from the mentally disabled. The son of former governor general Georges Vanier, he lives at L'Arche's headquarters north of Paris, in a village of handicapped people and their helpers that is the prototype for more than 100 communities around the world, 25 of them in Canada. A tireless publicist and fund-raiser for their cause, he was in Canada this month to deliver the Massey lectures, sponsored

by CBC Radio as a series of programs to promote the thinking of prominent intellectuals. They were broadcast last week. In the past, the lectures have featured such figures as Canadian literary critic Northrop Frye and American linguist Noam Chomsky. Vanier is the first religious thinker to join this distinguished group, and although his lecture—published in book form under the title *Becoming Human* (Harvard, \$20 paperback, \$34.95)—is no more than a reprint of standard Christian teaching, Vanier's passion and emphasis give it a radical edge.

Becoming Human traces a possible path of spiritual evolution from love-hate and alienation toward joy and fulfillment. Thus in the same route, of course, professed by countless self-help books. But Vanier takes a view of human nature fundamentally different from many of those popular studies, which tend to treat people as relatively isolated and autonomous—thus reflecting the individualism that the society around them. Vanier, on the other hand, stresses that the love-hate and pain experienced by so many is actually created and stimulated by individuals and the complex it implies. "In order to succeed and win, people have to make themselves hard," he comments, "which means they create delusions and fantasies that cut them off from their own feelings and from others."

For Vanier, the resulting hard-heartedness goes a long way to explaining contemporary problems, from the widespread isolated mar-

riages to the greed and lack of care that is destroying the environment. His analysis owes obvious debts to such psychological writers as Freud, Jung and Alice Miller. But Vanier is a devout Roman Catholic, and so it is not surprising that, when it comes to offering an antidote to a hardened, self-enclosed world, he ultimately arrives at the Christian concept of brotherly (or sisterly) love.

Many readers getting a first taste of traditional Christian teaching in *Becoming Human* (there is, for example, a heavy emphasis on dogmatic notions) will put the book aside. But while it often reads like an extract of homily, there is something revolutionary and moving about it. Like many religious and contemporary writers, Vanier believes that successful and self-loft people have a moral obligation to help the poor and the marginalized. But he is not referring primarily to the kind of charity that involves sending off a cheque. Rather, he means that people should make an effort to create a loving relationship with people others, under normal circumstances, they might well ignore or even be repulsed by the sick, the handicapped, the old, the culturally alien.

"I'm not saying you have to take a beggar into your house, of course you can't. He probably wouldn't want to go," Vanier says with a laugh adding, "But you can visit the old lady down the street. You can visit people that wouldn't send off a cheque. Rather, he means that people should make an effort to create a loving relationship with people others, under normal circumstances, they might well ignore or even be repulsed by the sick, the handicapped, the old, the culturally alien."

"This is the essence of Vanier's message: that in helping the so-called lesser ones, the so-called losers will find that walls will fall, and their own lives will be transformed. In fact, he argues, they will become more human, by which he means men reaching highly integrated into the lives of others. Of course, this integration has the same ends as well, so that a kind of joyful communion is born be-

between the good and lack of care that is destroying the environment. His analysis owes obvious debts to such psychological writers as Freud, Jung and Alice Miller. But Vanier is a devout Roman Catholic, and so it is not surprising that, when it comes to offering an antidote to a hardened, self-enclosed world, he ultimately arrives at the Christian concept of brotherly (or sisterly) love.

Gradually the venture grew, and Vanier took in more of the disabled. More people arrived to help—called, as he had been, to look after the residents. Today a typical L'Arche community contains roughly as many helpers as handicapped people. All household tasks are shared, according to abilities, and the handicapped also practice productive skills such as bookbinding or pottery. L'Arche is supported by governments and private donations, but is hardly a rich organization. Its staff of helpers receive food, board and a small stipend; the main reward seems to be the work itself.

In *Becoming Human*, Vanier attests that his experiences with Raphael, Philippe and others at L'Arche changed him from the hard-nosed, goal-oriented person he was and "brought me into the world of simple relationships, of fun and laughter. It has brought me back into my body, because people with disabilities do it with delight in intellectual or abstract conversation." Such relationships opened his heart, continues Vanier, who is unmarried and has no children of his own. With the disabled, he says, he discovered his own needs and weaknesses as well as theirs. "In discussing 'The willies,' he writes, "we discover the deepest part of our being: the need to be loved and to love someone who trusts and appreciates us, and who cares less about all about our capacity to work or to be clever and interesting."

Although *Becoming Human* sometimes strays into busy generalizations and truisms, some of its most compelling passages are the specific stories of handicapped people at L'Arche whose living arrangements changed the lives of those who worked with them. Of course, such statements are far from universal. Vanier does tell us stories about people who came to work at L'Arche and went away disappointed, though he admits that such people exist. He is the sort of man who prefers to stress the positive, and he believes that in L'Arche—where he warmly welcomes people of all religions and beliefs—there is a model for the future. Vanier argues that the world will be changed for the better not primarily by politicians or massive social programs, but by a whole new kind of human community, springing up at a grassroots level thousands of communities in which the needy and the marginalized have their fully human place.

Vanier's emphasis on community leads him to make some arresting observations about crises in contemporary life. When asked about Robert Lafont, the Saskatchewan farmer who in 1993 killed his severely handicapped daughter, he becomes less than eager to see her. Vanier says he too has been driven to desperation by the demands and agonies of the people in his care, but was kept from extreme solutions by knowing there was a community there to help him. In the Lafont case, he wonders "What support did those people have? What did the parish do about it? The central problem, he adds, "is not just killing or not killing. It's not we're broken down the network of community, of concern and love for each other. In a world of high individualism, it's too much for people to extend their love and care."

Obviously, the most powerful proponent of Vanier's vision is not his books (he has written several others), but himself. He is charismatic in the best sense, infused with a warmth and happiness that seem an entirely genuine result of his experiences at L'Arche. "Come out from behind our walls," Vanier says, warning against the difficulties involved, "means moving into insecurity. We have to walk in uncharted land, but gradually this land will become the centre of our common humanity." □

Jean Vanier shares the lessons he learned from giving



Known with L'Arche residents in 1990, and today (opposite) to offer to succeed, people make themselves hard.

between the two groups, and the division between them is dissolved into Vanier: "To be human is to look after each other; to celebrate each other, to share a glass of wine or a good story."

A cynic might counter that it is also human to drop bombs and pollute the seas after all humans do those things, too. But if Vanier is right, he is speaking astoundingly—often he makes the solution to the world's problems seem almost as simple as this: Vanier founded the organization in 1964—though this became clear only in retrospect. At the time, he was simply looking for a better, more Christian way to live. He had already enjoyed successful careers as a social officer and a teacher of philosophy at St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto. Then, under the influence of his friend and mentor, a French priest called Father Thomas, he turned to Jesus and began to visit the mentally handicapped. In their institution he found two severely mentally and physically disabled men, Raphael and Philippe, in whom he sensed a deep, un-

Born without eyes

Pesticides are suspected in clusters of a rare defect

Tacey Aherne delivered her second son, Matthew, in a Surrey, B.C., hospital at eight minutes past midnight on Jan. 1, 1996. At six pounds, 14 ounces, the infant was the smallest she had ever born and appeared to be healthy. Declared Surrey's New Year's babe, Matthew had his picture taken by two newspapers and received gifts from several local businesses. Aherne, now 30, and her husband, Vince, 35, were overjoyed, but couldn't help feeling uneasy about one thing: Matthew never opened his eyes. Their doctor attributed the problem to bruising caused during birth, and advised the couple not to worry. Three weeks later, an ultrasound scan proved that something was seriously wrong. Matthew suffered from a rare disorder that left him with no eyes. He would never be able to see. "It was devastating," says Aherne. "I'd never heard of before."

The medical team for the condition is neuroblastoma, and it strikes less than one in 10,000 children. Yet in 1996, five cases have been reported in British Columbia. Over the past three years, seven children have been born in southern Ontario with one or both eyes missing, an unprecedented cluster of such births, according to medical specialists who have treated the youngsters. They say the condition may be genetic but the prevalence is too high to be explained that way. The children's parents suggest that environmental factors—perhaps exposure to industrial or agricultural chemicals while still in the womb—may be the cause. "No way do I see that being genetic," says Michael Webb, a Toronto ophthalmologist who makes and fits artificial eyeballs. "The odds against it are astronomical," says Ogilvie, who has treated the Ontario children. "There has to be something with in the environment."

Such a connection has been established by a court in Florida. A Miami jury ruled in June 1996 that John Castillo Jr., now 6, was born without eyes because his mother was exposed to a fungicide called Dacthal while she was pregnant. Dwayne Castillo testified that she was inadvertently sprayed with



Tacey and Matthew Aherne: 'It never saved of a baby'

Dacthal in November, 1990, while working by a fast-growing operation. Lawyers John Russo, part of Castillo's legal team, and she presented evidence to show the fungicide caused neuroblastoma and other eye defects in laboratory tests. The jury in the case awarded Castillo \$6 million in damages, although the manufacturer, DuPont, has appealed. Russo currently represents eight families from England, Scotland and New Zealand in similar suits against DuPont, and a civil trial is to begin next June in a case in West Virginia where the company manufactures ingredients for its fungicides.

Webb said that neuroblastoma is such a rare condition that he normally sees about one patient every five years. The seven young children he is currently treating were all born within a 2½-hour drive of Toronto. He has contacted other consultants across North America but none has reported a similar cluster of patients. As well, none of the children who have severe forms of the condition in which no damage of any type have had occurred in the womb. Such patients require surgical implants in the empty eye sockets to encourage the facial bones to grow prop-

erly. "This group includes some of the most difficult cases I've come across," he said, "which is all the more reason to believe that something other than genetics is involved."

In some of these cases, the parents have spent many hours trying to determine what caused their child's condition. Tacey Aherne, a 27-year-old medical records technician who lives in Woodport, Ont., about 50 km west of London, said that a geneticist treated her daughter Lauren, born without eyes in April, 1993, and determined that the problem was not hereditary. She and her husband, Rossen, 28, visited at least one of several apple orchards near Rodney while she was pregnant. Levinsky is certain she was exposed to more than one agricultural chemical and has concluded that she did not come in contact with Dacthal.

Aherne has embarked on a similar search for answers and has become acquainted with Levinsky through an Internet chat group specializing primarily at children with neuroblastoma. Her son is a waiting list for a genetic test, although doctors have informed her it is highly unlikely that the problem is genetic. In the meantime, Aherne has said she had scientific studies that point to environmental factors, and she, too, believes the may have ingested agricultural chemicals while pregnant. The B.C. woman says that early in the pregnancy she visited her mother in the Okanagan Valley while many apple groves were spraying their trees. "I feel this was a factor," says Aherne.

Both mothers say their babies are healthy, although they are developing more slowly than other children due to their disability. Aherne said Matthew's speech is delayed, but now that he knows how to talk he rarely stops. He participates in a four-to-five-hour program once a week, plays with large Lego blocks and likes to color. He has also discovered that he can remove his \$1,200 artificial eyes, and once tossed one across a restaurant. Matthew is, in short, a typically happy-spirited three-year-old, with parents who remain troubled by the unanswered questions surrounding his disability.

By ARCE JENKINS

Ann Dowsett Johnston



A president under fire

He is a brilliant scientist, a pioneering researcher who has explored the mysteries of living cells. He spent 20 years creating the first chemical synthesis of ribonucleic acid, developing the antiviral drug Ganciclovir and the chemistry for the first commercial gene machine along the way. And as the man who took the reins at Acadia University in 1988, he has been the driving force behind one of the most innovative integrations of high-tech into the undergraduate classroom: the award-winning Acadia Advantage program. Now it is, then, that president Kevin Ogilvie is now seen by many as Acadia's most controversial figure.

In the small town of Wolfville, N.S., the past year has been one of the most riotous in the school's 180-year history. Faculty, staff, students and alumni have all questioned Ogilvie's leadership. In May, the students brought motions to the board of governors, requesting a full review of the president. At the same time, the board received a letter from the faculty association expressing a lack of confidence in the president and support for the student motion. The board of governors overwhelmingly supported Ogilvie. Only two weeks ago, as the university held an open house for future students, the executive of the faculty association issued a bulletin to the national press putting a bounty on the president's head: they would donate \$100,000 to the university's capital campaign if Ogilvie resigned.

Last Tuesday night, as the president hosted a student cocktail party on the 40th floor of the Royal Bank Tower in Toronto, the faculty association rejected the grimacing bounty proposal, but adopted a new resolution of non-confidence in Ogilvie's leadership. On the same evening, 325 alumni met at the Wolfville school. They passed a motion to call on Acadia's board of governors to "seek towards a restoration of the environment of trust, unity and fairness." As well, they called a motion calling for Ogilvie's resignation, to be reviewed in the future. Says Wendy Elliott,

class of '75, "There was an amazing feeling of democracy."

Democracy is exactly what many feel has been missing at Acadia. Detractors call Ogilvie autocratic. One of his most fervent supporters openly criticizes his management style. "He has an ego that gets him into trouble, and he doesn't admit he's right. But he's also running a budget deficit, and has a strong vision for Acadia in the 21st century."

Why did a brilliant researcher at McGill move home to run a small undergraduate school? "In the 1960s, it became clear that so-



Ogilvie in Toronto: 'There is a real campaign to get rid of me'

ciety was no longer going to throw money at universities," says Ogilvie. "I was concerned that most would not make the changes they needed to." This was Acadia's motivation. "To become unique in the world, a small university recognized as the Standard or Oxford of liberal undergraduate institutions."

At the heart of that vision is the Acadia Advantage program, using laptops to enhance the learning environment. By applying innovative technology to the classroom, professors spend less time imparting knowledge and more time collaborating with the students, helping them evaluate what is before them. "This was not a case of going into the IT candy store and grabbing things off the shelf," says Ogilvie. "This was a strategic development."

But many who applaud Ogilvie's unique vision are critical of his ability to brook support. When the faculty was on the brink of striking last year, some complained that

the administration was trying to impose technology from above. For three months, many would do only what the plan in the Acadia Advantage. Eventually, a new clause was added to the collective agreement, saying that while professors must be committed to exploring educational technology, such as ultimately exercise their own pedagogical judgment.

In the threat of technological change driving the movement is Wolfville? "The union have a national agenda to ensure that they have control of the innovation," says Ogilvie, "and we are standing up to that agenda." Beverly Vennart, the new president of the faculty association, began the year with high hopes, but is now pessimistic. "Most of us have embraced the Acadia Advantage," he says. "But the faculty is not coming from the community I thought I could do some bridge-building, but it is clear that it was only cosmetic."

Whether running a small liberal arts school, or a large research-oriented institution, all university leaders must tackle the critical job of consensus-building. Some leaders govern by getting others to buy into their vision. And in a community the size of Wolfville, population 4,000, where the university is the primary employer, it is crucial to put a human face on change.

Recently, Jim Gray (class of '73) decided to help pitch in and help. A senior consultant with National Public Relations in Toronto, Gray specializes in media training and crisis communication. Last Tuesday, he did some presentation training with Ogilvie before the Toronto alumni event, preparing the president for "a worst-case scenario." As it turned out, the Toronto audience was approving.

But back in Wolfville, it's another story. There is a powerful strategy at work here, and a sorry lack of peace. Is this a self-hunt, the persecution of a change agent? A case of an alienated leader with a deficit of people skills? Or a little of both? Heavenside and new student leader Chris Houston are both disenchanted. Says Houston, Acadia's former business student and a son of a wealthy family, "I don't see the president just get on with what we're here."

Ogilvie, who starts his second year term next July, is determined to see his vision through. "There is a real campaign to get rid of me here," he says, smiling. "The problem is, I'm strong. I'm not corruptible. The proof of what I'm doing will show when our graduates start hitting the world." No doubt. But for the moment, the mood in Wolfville is bleak.

People

Edited by
TANYA DARTES

Into the mouths of babes

Tara Charendoff makes a living by losing her voice. The 35-year-old Toronto native has been stretching her vocal chords as a variety of animated shows since she was 13. But her biggest role so far is the voice of the nosed member of the Pickle family, baby Dill, in the pathos-soaked *The Regene Movie*, based on the hugely popular children's television cartoon of the same name. "When people discover that I do voices, especially Dill, I end up having to do them for an hour," she says. "And it's easy to forget what I really sound like."

Charendoff has always aspired to be a performer. She has memories of singing in front of her friends when she was only 3. Able to easily manipulate her voice, she was told by her agent to try animation voices, leading to her first role, as the cartoon *Mylla Kitty*. That led to vocal parts in the TV cartoons *Are You Afraid of the Dark?*, *Dinosaur*, and *Recess*—and to Charendoff moving to Los Angeles four years ago. When she landed the *Regene* role, which she will continue in the weekly series, she tried to make her baby sounds realistic. "I really got into it, sucking my thumb, playing with my toes and screaming and crying," she says. "The sounds were so authentic that I upset some new parents who were visiting the set."

Charendoff with a *Pickle* pick: 'easy to forget what I sound like'



Schmagerlin and Gov. Sen. Romeo LeBlanc: unconventional

Mainstream honor for a short-fiction experimenter

As far as Canadian literary awards are concerned, 2008 is shaping up to be the year of the short story. First Alice Munro won the Giller Prize for her latest collection, *The Love of a Good Woman*. And last week, Kingston, Ont., writer Diane Schmagerlin was awarded the Governor General's English-language fiction award for her most recent book of stories, *Forms of Devotion*. But while the two women were triumphant for work in the same genre, Schmagerlin's tales are far more unconventional than Munro's. Accompanied by century-old woodcut illustrations, *Forms of Devotion* ranges from a story that spins its eerie narrative while enumerating the parts of the heart to one that is ostensibly a guide, called "How to Write a Serious Novel About Love." Schmagerlin, 44, has been called an "experimental writer," and she says she finds the label liberating. "I don't have a real definition of what a story is. I don't think there is a definition or needs to be."

The Thunder Bay Ont.-born author, a single mother to 13-year-old Alexander, is no stranger to the \$10,000 Governor General's prize—her collection *The New of My Dreams* was nominated in 1990, and she served on the English fiction jury last year. But she says she was surprised by her victory this time around. "I actually thought Barbara Gowdy would win," she adds, referring to her fellow nominee. "I have an understanding of how difficult it is for the jurors to make their decision. I hope they picked the book for all the right reasons, solely on merit."

Schmagerlin says that when she moves to the United States, people always ask her why there are so many female writers of short fiction in Canada. "I don't have an answer to that question," she says, adding that she believes five two major Canadian prizes this year for short-story writers simply represent "a really nice coincidence. I hope this coincidence turns into a trend."

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Body language

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

Betty Goodwin dreams of the skin of things. She makes art with flattened sheets of disembodied clothes, old vests pressed into paper like dried flowers. She stitches scars onto a black tarpaulin that hangs folded, with ropes dangling, like a stage curtain. She works dark berries into paper and Mylar. And in her body of work, the body always makes itself felt, as a vessel of memory, the flesh swaddled by love or torture. She draws swimmers who wry or wry not in drowning. Bodies that could be floating or falling. Bones, nerves, phantoms (haunted by pain). But behind the dull ache and discreet terror, there is a resilient beauty. And an openness. Her work resonates with echoes of the body being done and undone—the shuddering rhythm of countless encores, and the presence of penciled figures left unmissed from early drafts, like photographs from past lives.

At the age of 75, Betty Goodwin is an artist in her prime. Visiting Toronto last week to open a landmark retrospective of her work at the Art Gallery of Ontario (Nov. 18 to March 7), this art-mad woman from Montreal found herself delayed by major media attention. "I feel I've been split apart," she said as she drew for yet an-



other interview, looking frail but thoroughly modern in layers of black, her hair a blaze of copper. "It's like I've won the Nobel Prize or something." In fact, Goodwin is the first woman of the \$25,000 Harold Town Prize for drawing. And there is an aspect of lifetime achievement to her solo exhibit at the AGO, which features 71 works spanning four decades. But despite her age, Goodwin is not about to rest on her laurels. As she sits with a glass of water, sipping a voice worn ragged by too much talk, she is eager to get back to work, to retreat to her warehouse studio in Montreal, the city where she was born and raised. "I'm at a point where I really want to dig deep and see how I can go beyond," she says. "I just want to go further and push, push, push."

Goodwin pursues her art with singular perseverance. "She has great determination," says Jessica Bradley, the AGO's curator of contemporary art, who has been exploring her work since 1980. "As someone as her themes can be, everything she does is so full of this, this drive." What is remarkably absent from Goodwin's success is that, as a professionally made art world where snuffing rebels, she has made her mark by drawing. "She has resisted drawing as a primary process rather than a preliminary act towards a finished piece," says Bradley. Adds AGO director Matthew Teitelbaum: "It's a very crucial time in the development of painting, she told people

by her example that drawing was a worthy engagement. It would be hard to think of another woman of her generation who has had a greater effect on subsequent generations of artists."

Goodwin, who abandoned the brush in 1968, finds more comfortable with the direct touch of graphite, powdered carbon or oil stick. "In drawing," she says, "I can pull out what I want. It has an immediacy." Drawing also allows Goodwin to let her work evolve through a constant process of erasing and revision. Often she works on translucent Mylar or Geoflon, rubbing out dents with turpentine. "Sometimes I'd be left with fragments I wasn't able to erase, or that the turpentine couldn't get out," she says, "and these fragments come right into the work." Camaraderie, early drafts hidden like ephemeral layers—don't know how quivering at the edge of a figure, or a flash of color from below.

But there is nothing ironic or cynically postmodern about her method. "She has incredible honesty," says Goodwin's dealer, Jared Soble, whose Soble-Castelli Gallery in Toronto recently opened a wide-ranging show of her art. "When she was wanting the self to carry a piece of paper to death and she didn't. She comes at you with a new emotion—I've seen people literally stand in front of her work and weep."

Goodwin does not talk about the personal tragedies that have informed her art. But the basics are known. Her father, who owned a wet factory in Montreal, died when she was just 9. She has been married for 33 years to Martin Goodwin, a civil engineer, and their only child, Paul, died at 30 of a drug overdose. Betty says she was a "spaced out" student as good as anything but not. After graduat-

ing from high school, she studied design at Windsor's Commercial School of Art in Montreal, then launched her career as a painter and printmaker in the late 1940s. Painting mostly landscapes and still lifes, Goodwin enjoyed considerable success. But, profoundly disappointed with her work, she later destroyed most of it. In 1968 she vowed to limit herself to drawing.

She also took a course in clothing. And in 1969, she made a breakthrough by putting a pair of gloves directly through an stitching press. Later she used men's vests, turning them into a sequence of haunting images. She concluded the series in 1973 by casting vests in plaster and then, in a fanned gesture, burning them in earth. Goodwin tends to latch onto an image—a tarpaulin, a bed, a rope piece—and work it into the ground with a blinding touch. Her studio is filled with objects waiting to be used—stones, bottles, and metal artifacts—and her work includes natural sculptures and walled-in installations of concrete. But the gravity of the human body keeps drawing her back. Goodwin's *Sixteeners* series, which was exhibited in 1983 as part of her first one-woman show in New York City, is among her most subtle works. Whether the swimmers are adrift in an aqueous sea or calibrating 0.001—or just plain old—she is open to question. In *La misère* she depicts a series of X-ray visions. Goodwin explores submerged worlds of memory and pain. One delicate drawing in pastel and graphite shows the sparrow-like bones of a leg bisected at the joint by seven streaks of information. And in her 1985 work *Undrift* (*Verres, No. 2*), a body lies prone on the earth, wired to a subterranean mass of veins and roots. The image originated with a photograph that Goodwin took of an

Betty Goodwin draws a resilient beauty from visions of pain and loss

Undrift (*Verres, No. 2*), the artist with *Musing Towards Pine* (above left): *Verres*

eroded cliffs in the Dominican Republic. Although she built from a community with a strong identity—French Montreal—Goodwin's own roots are not readily visible in her work. The Quebec art scene of the 1950s was dominated by the revolutionary contemporary movement, but "I never felt part of it," she says. Nor

is there a sense of Canadian landscape or politics in her work—although her wounded souls would not be out of place in the existential barriers of Anton Artaud's films or the fiction of Anne Michaels. In fact, the author of *Pengwin* Pines penned the introduction to the AGO's Goodwin catalogue. "Her language," writes Michaels, "was profoundly humanistic. In a terrible way—as a more without landscape—a homeless geography."

While the sense of place is elusive, Goodwin's art allies with compassion for a suffering world. "I'm not making a comment about any specific horror," she says, then goes on to talk with despair about Rwanda and Kosovo and ethnic massacre. In a 1986 piece (titled *And in winter trees, a cruel solitude*) framed with a dark image of a cross, bloodied and broken victims and a golden-red spot on the cross. Goodwin says about "them": "I can't see them as people, but the focus on pain and mourning can be misleading because, as Soble points out, 'there's so much affirmation in her work.'"

You can sense that by watching Goodwin walk through her show at the AGO, her blue eyes sparkling with fresh connections. "I learn a lot from my own exhibition," she says. "I see the interrelation between works—I'm getting to see again tomorrow." Armed with fresh research into the art of Betty Goodwin, she will then go back to her studio, back to the business of drawing a surgical line between life and death. □



RAUCOUS READS

Today's kids are so hypnotized by TV, computers and other electronic diversions that it's a wonder they make time for any non-homework reading. But with the growing concern among parents and educators about literacy—and with books' power to hook the imagination in a way other entertainments can't—children's literature is still going strong. Canada has dozens of gifted writers and illustrators creating works for kids. In fact, more than 400 books for young people will be published in Canada this year. Some of the year's best juvenile picture books written and/or illustrated by Canadians, chosen by Maclean's staffers:

Gaily pleasures abound in the text and drawings of *Rise by Night* (Groundwood, \$14.95), written and illustrated by award-winning Montserrat Morelle Levert. Aimed at preschoolers, the book presents a dilemma to which all children can relate: bringing to sleep to get up on the middle of the night and go to the bathroom. The story is filled with delicious details, such as a witch who "breaths like all snakes, cakewalk soap and fresh fish." And the illustrations are jeremiatic color flights of fancy.

Elliot's Emergency (Kids Can, \$12.95) introduces a new kid on the block for school-age or younger children. The stuffed toy Elliot Moose, created by Andrea Beck of Unionville, Ont., is already at the centre of a TV series being produced by Nelvana. In his first book, Elliot is introduced to a by far top animal pals when he splits a scene. Beck's adorable graphics nicely complement the sweet, simple text.

Adult-familiar with Goshawk, Ont. author Thomas King's coveys will detect the same sly humor in *Coyote Sings to the Moon* (Key Porter Kids, \$16.95), the story of how Coyote's grating voice

scars away the celestial body Johnny Wake's silvery, dream-like watercolors are clever and subtle, and King's tale is a howl. The ingenuity of *Someone Is Reading This Book* (Moose, \$19.95) will appeal to parents as much as kids, if not more so. Toronto writer-illustrator Alice Prosser has created a postmodern tale within a fairy tale: the book's front and back covers both tell a three- or less-on-revision story about a prince and his three mothers, but the pages in between connect playfully on the framing story and address the reader: "Come... you and I can fly, and we'll soon find out what's going on." Prosser's illustrations, including a giant whose legs burst open through a "rip" in the page, are beguiling.

The whimsy of *Rodeo Pup* (Doubleday, \$26.95) is wackier, but equally irresistible. Toronto writer-illustrator Lisa Reinhardt presents the lovable story of a dog that's fixated on string—Rodeo Pup eats its owner's slightest shagbobs, but also becomes famous because it can flex its teeth. The acrylics are big, bold and hilarious.

Dog Tales (Whitefox, \$25.95) is another book of canine campaigns,

one that will thrill children familiar with classic fairy tales and enamored of ponies. Toronto author Jennifer Rae has concocted such parns as "Candorally" and "The Dilemma of New Clothes." These Coward's illustrations are appropriately loopy.

Rich and evocative, Harvey Chan's panels are a perfect match for fellow Torontoan Chela Butler Lattimore's recasting of an old Russian story in *Mosses for the Year of the Sea* (Groundwood, \$16.95). The book, nominated for a 1996 Governor General children's illustration award, tells the story of a poor man who earns favor with the god of the watery depths. A beguiling story, with illustrations to match.

The Fox's Kettle (Orca, \$17.95) also has the flavor of an ancient tale, but is in fact an original story based on Victorian author

Lewis Carroll's research into old Japanese legends. The ingredients of the yarn are strange locale, a woman who turns out to be a fox and a girl who likes to tell stories. But the book's real strength lies in the radiant, evocative illustrations by Victor Bostana, a folkie who likes a Governor General of a nomination.

At the opening of *Sublet* (Penguin, \$23.99), a nervous Canadian wildlife artist Robert Bateman urges the reader to "leave your modern life behind and listen to the rhythm of the land." This book is a superb tribute to an advocate of the imagination in Africa. Bateman's realistic paintings are gorgeous and dramatic, and the text, co-written with Rick Archibald, is evocative.

Another bewitching world in bright poetry to life in *Animal Dreaming* (Siddart Kids, \$24.95) by Paul Morris. The author's tales of the Dreamtime—the Australian Aboriginals' phrase for the world of spirits who formed the land and its features—are interesting enough, but his illustrations, many of them based on ancient Aboriginal rock art, are beautiful.

The tale alone, combining two disparate things that seem to belong together, casts a spell. *Bag Cat* (Kids Can, \$14.95) is the story of a girl's meeting of a cat, and their short time together. Burlington, Ont. writer Marilyn Halper based the story on her own childhood experience with a wild cat. Paul Monahan's art of Ontario, Ont., makes the tale come alive with honey graphics.

In *The Roses in My Carpets* (Siddart Kids, \$17.95), an Algonquin boy lives in a mud-drenched refugee camp caring for his mother and sister and encouraging his life by the next trip to the river and finding the acacia plant and, finally, that it, when he escapes into his work as an agent clerk in a government office.

swaver "With my fingers I create a world the year cannot touch." Super, atmospheric prose from Torontoan Abdullah Khan and pictures by Tucson, Ariz.-based Michael Miller make this a moving story.

Tom and Francisco: A Love Story (Key Porter Kids, \$16.95) is that rare thing, a contemporary kids' book in rhyming couplets.

Best-selling adult author Sophia Fraser tells the story of a city cat who sets aside her prejudices and learns to love a tough country kid. Peterborough, Ont., illustrator Suzanne Fernandez has created seasonal watercolors to match Fraser's vignettes.

Frank Newell's superbly illustrated *Crushes* (Douglas & McIntyre, \$20) is an oddity in children's literature, billing itself as "an alphabet for adults and worthy children." While some of its pictures will surely please the world of adults—and the letter M, for instance, is Michael the Moleworm, an obscure Japanese emperor—their is no denying the charm of an alphabet that



Pages (clockwise from top) from *Rise by Night*, *Elliot's Emergency*, *The Mosses for the Year of the Sea*, *Sublet*, and *Crushes*: books have a unique power to hook the imagination





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BOOKS

Puberty blues

This year's young adult novels explore teen angst

Where have all the fathers gone? Male parents are conspicuous mostly by their absence from the best Canadian books for young people published in the past year. They all seem to be away working, to have died or to otherwise be out of the picture. The dad deficiency is closely linked to a multitude of family secrets and a surprising number of juvenile characters who feel like outcasts or outlaws. That is not to say these novels for young adults—usually defined as readers aged roughly 12 to 16—are not good. They are very good—beautifully written, highly readable, frequently moving, often adventurous and inhabited by a winning population of unique people.

In *The Only Outcast* (Tundra, \$19.95), by Peterborough, Ont.-based Julie Johnston, a spirited bunch of kids spends a month at their grandparents' cottage in the late summer of 1904. Working from a recently reestablished diary, Johnston convincingly fleshes out 15-year-old Fred Dickson's sporadic entries. He is grappling with his mother's recent death, a frustrating summer and a girl, largely absent, father. Fred consoles himself by rising with the sun to join the other grand-children for fishing, swimming and sailing. When some of the more mischievous kids of the lake threaten to become reality, Fred is forced to confront the crises and make mature decisions.

Stephen Fair (Groundwood, \$9.95), by Perth, Ont.'s The Wynns family, is a contemporary story of a young man whose restless father left years ago, soon after building a clothing line family house in Eastern Ontario he called "The Ark." Stephen's older brother, Malcolm, subsequently ran away as well. Stephen, plagued by strange dreams and nightmares, is determined to discover the root of his problems. In this well-told novel, probing the past opens a lot of doors. What lies behind them is complex, disturbing, but ultimately healing as well.

Maker or Breaker Spring (Clockwork, \$11.95), by Janet McNaughton, is set in her home town of St. John's, Nfld., at the end of the Second World War. Fifteen-year-old Evelyn McCallum cannot accept that her father,



Finsen: yet another book in which an estranged father is a source of stress

a bomb-disposal expert who went missing in action in 1942, may not come back. McNaughton's wistfully reflective spare, quiet, issues—and even the dialogue of the time.

Two other novels are particularly compelling. On the evidence of one of them, boys are not very in. Last year's Christie Book Award-winning *Deborah*, by Rosalind Wiseman's Op, explored a lot of negotiation with her own town. This year, in *Red Summer* (Groundwood, \$8.95) by Sarah Wetmore of Kingston, Ont., Tennessee, a 12-year-old girl, becomes involved with an unusual girl of the same age who seems to believe she actually is a hit. The heroine Lucy escapes her problems, including a deeply grumpy if a little, into a world of her own—a case. She also bumps up against her best friend as an overpass is a ramp. This is a powerful, streetwise story, where the kids set the tone and make the important decisions about dealing with authority and telling the truth.

June's Girl (Owl's Cry, \$15.95) by Delta, B.C. author Gayle Friesen, is serious and rather hard-boiled, but unexpectedly satisfying. Fourteen-year-old Claire and her protective, controlling mother, June, dance across

Canada to visit June's recently widowed mother, from whom she has long been estranged. There, Claire accidentally bumps into the father she never knew, who subsequently also has an enormous issue to be a close-knit dance for her half brother. Friesen's story is moving and well-paced—an intriguing coming-of-age story and a bloody good read.

Besides an absence of fathers, *The Only Outcast*, *Maker or Breaker Spring*, *Red Summer* and *June's Girl* all have something else in common: They were nominated for the 1998 Governor General's award for children's literature in English. The winner, which was announced last week, is Janet Lurie's *The Hidden Tree*, published in late 1997. The story of a 15-year-old Lonsdale girl during the American Revolution has several books that were nominated are also good bets for young readers. Winning author Linda Hurlston's *Meeko's Bridge* (Tundra, \$7.99) is a heartwarming narrative about friendship and trust. It revolves around a 15-year-old who attends school, holds a job, greatly keeps home body and soul together (barely) while coping with a clinically depressed mother, an unusual aunt and dreamer of her own.

Edmonton-based Monica Hughes' brilliant fantasy *The Steary Book* (Harper Collins, \$12.95) takes place on the island, dream world of Arden, where not only is everything unknown, but stories are characters by the 15-year-old Claire leads her imagination to a magical sister, Elka, and her dog, the dog of Elka. This situation becomes even more dangerous when Claire crosses across the mysterious Jennifer, who has been washed ashore after being shipwrecked. She has nothing but a small treasure chest—The Steary Book.

Hughes has also gathered a number of eerie science-fiction and fantasy tales by various authors in *What If...? Amazing Stories* (Tundra, \$7.99). These are cases, tunnels, dragons and mystery. Some pieces focus on such familiar positions as babysitting, while others take off into literary pinnacles.

Fans of the collected from Little and teenage in largely with *What If...? Amazing Stories* *The 27 Winter Tales* (Viking, \$24.95), a new collection of family drama, whimsical tales and poetry. The book touches on life in all its complexity, confusion and wonder. Little effortlessly links discovery and loss, joy and sadness, as stories that will comfortably carry many a burgeoning reader through the worst of a chilly season.

ARLENE PERLEY BAE

Songs of contention

Sarah McLachlan recalls creating her first album

In September, 1987, an impressionable 19-year-old named Sarah McLachlan left her parents' home in Halifax and moved to Vancouver. Lured west by a five-album contract with the independent record company Nettwerk Productions, McLachlan dreamed of becoming a pop diva in the mold of Kate Bush, one of her idols. McLachlan had been assured she had a lovely haunting voice, but was uncertain whether she could actually write songs. Nettwerk executive Mark Jowett promised he would give her time and the help of other musicians. Now, the nine-month creative process that resulted in McLachlan's best-selling 1989 debut, *Tweak*, is the subject of a high profile lawsuit being heard in tiny Courthouse 44 at the B.C. Supreme Court in Vancouver. And this week, 20-year-old McLachlan is to finish giving her version of how some of the songs on *Tweak* came to be.

The case illuminates the whole process of creative collaboration and how credit is given in albums. It also offers a new peek into the business of record production. On the one side is Darryl Needler, the 34-year-old former drummer with Vancouver's rock bands 54-40 and MIDEY, who Jowett brought in to help McLachlan develop her first album. Claiming that he co-wrote four of *Tweak*'s 10 songs but has not been given sufficient credit or remuneration, Needler is suing McLachlan and Nettwerk for copyright infringement and breach of contract. "She took all the credit for the music," Needler told the court. "My feelings were hurt."

On the other side is international superstar McLachlan, who sold 625,000 copies of *Tweak* and went on to win the Juno and two Grammy Awards for her five albums since then—and to launch the highly successful offshore summer touring show *Lifted*. Fair. Taking the stand for the first time late last week, she acknowledged that Needler was hired to "put a fire under me



The singer's lawsuit over whether four songs were collaborations

and get me focused." But McLachlan vigorously denied his claim that he co-wrote four of the songs on *Tweak*.

Her streaked copper hair pulled back by a rhinestone-encrusted beehive pin, the cherub-faced singer, dressed in a black poncho, sat up to an electric keyboard to sketch out the first few bars of *Tweak*, one of the songs in contention. Her nervousness was betrayed by a flicker of notes and forgotten lyrics. "I was quite excited by Darryl saying [in court] that I asked him what the difference between a verse and a chorus was," said McLachlan, a classically trained musician who studied piano, guitar and voice. McLachlan asserts Needler's job was not to co-write songs—"That was never brought up"—but merely to provide technical assis-

tance. And while he contributed suggestions to simplify or enhance existing tunes she contends he never co-wrote with her.

Songwriting, McLachlan testified, is a solitary process that involves playing ten hours and hours, working out things in my head and singing ideas to myself." When she recalled the session from *Tweak* called *Don't Say*, McLachlan began to cry softly, remarking that it took her only one evening to write. She composed it after she learned a young boy she used to babysit at Halifax had died of a brain tumor. When McLachlan did collaborate, with musician Darren Phillips, the two worked very closely, sharing ideas for songs, the singer explained. Phillips, for instance, brought her the first four chords of *Tweak*, which led to the song's verse melody. That kind of intimate relationship, the singer said, never developed with Needler.

The singer testified that she often found working with Needler "far too regimented" because he had no detailed plans of what they were to do each day. She did concede, however, that Needler imposed some necessary discipline on her which, as an "unfocused" teenager, she needed. But McLachlan said she often ignored Needler's suggestions because she did not feel they were really useful. "I wanted this album to be as much mine as possible," she said. "I wanted the songs to come from me."

Needler had testified earlier that his friend Jowett got him involved in the so-called Sarah project to speed up the recording process, because production of McLachlan's first album was taking longer than anticipated.

"Sarah was young, in a new city, and her main priority was to have fun," Needler told the court. He was paid \$5,385 for his work, plus one-per-cent royalties, which amounted to \$50,000. He is credited on the album for preproduction co-ordination, production assistance and "inspiration."

The singer has been coming to court every day since the trial began in early November, accompanied by her female bodyguard and bringing along a 15-string guitar. At least 10 adolescent girls always show up to watch the proceedings, and McLachlan dutifully signs autographs for each one. McLachlan said outside the courtroom last week that she will probably write songs about her experience with the lawsuit. The trial, undoubtedly, she will be sure not to ask for any help.

JENNIFER HUNTER in Vancouver

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Why the West is calling the shots in Canada

It is from the battered lot of the ideas come. It is from the bonuses that the energy and innovation come. You want change? Look here.

As the shattered Republicans try to reorganize, the leadership well distant from the party's traditional base, As Canada's right wing tries to coalesce, the showers and makers are from Western Canada, halfway from Bay Street. This is how the world shifts.

While no one seems to have noticed, the combined Republicans, who can't seem to pin down Sluggo Willie, are no longer the party of the Eastern Seaboard. No more the fringe of party hangers playing croquet, stockholders sipping their martinis while clipping their coupons.

The Grand Old Party has passed to the Deep South, since the preserve of the Democrats is before blacks started to move north for industrial struggle. The disgraced Newt Gingrich, of course, is from Georgia. But to replace him as Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Republicans have reached even further south, to Louisiana for the relatively unknown Bob Livingston, who started out as a teenager cleaning up after the elephants at the New Orleans zoo. Good grooming for politics, you might say? We'll ignore that. No one outside Washington (or the elephants) had ever heard of him.

House majority leader? Dick Armey of Texas. Majority whip? Tom DeLay, Texas. Who's the new chairman of the Republican Conference? Oldfather's John J. Dingell, Michigan. The only black Republican in the House, J.C. Watts, he led the University of Oklahoma to consecutive Orange Bowl victories in 1980 and '81 and then played as quarterback for the Ottawa Rough Riders.

An ordained minister, he won't quite so faint to other areas, once investigated (but not charged) by the FBI in a bribery investigation, and his state housing laws against him for income taxes in 1983, 1984 and 1986, and being late in paying his 1992, 1993 and 1994 real estate taxes.

But that's another matter: politicians below the Mason-Dixon line are given—echo there, Mike Wolfe—a lot of leeway. The Democrats know the value of Dixie; they've called the White House for two terms with the unusual geographical pairing of the Double Bubble—



Chavez from Arkansas and Al Gore from Tennessee. Where is House minority leader Dick Gephardt from? Missouri.

But the Republicans are sticking to the South, where the population is flowing in search of sun. Already leading the race for the party's presidential candidate in 2000 is a very thin need, George W. Bush, son of yachtsman and just re-elected as governor of the second most populous state, Texas. Brother Jeb Bush is now governor of Florida, fourth most populous.

As the Americans look south—the west president probably Gore or Bush—Canada takes its lead off the never-ending Quebec problem to look west. It's within the political ideas have come from that century.

The Alberta farmers and their own party to the House of Commons in the 1930s. The staidie radicals of the CCF, now morphed into the NDP, were born in the West. Tommy Douglas in Saskatchewan introduced Medicare to North America. (Germany pushed by Bismarck, but not in 1890.) Manitoba's John Bracken accepted the Conservative leadership only as the condition that the opposition "Progressives" be kicked onto the label.

So now we approach 1999 and the united alternative conference in Ottawa in February. Jurassic Park (aka Joe) maintains he will not attend, but history has passed him by and the poor guy hasn't noticed.

He should have a chat with Tim Kiernan, the wisest young man on Bay Street. Kiernan, who made his millions there, spent everyone knows (not Montreal to Toronto but neither Ottawa nor Montreal) leaves the village to which power has shifted from the old Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto axis. "It's the old Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto axis," he sighs, knowing it because he's part of it.

The poor Tories, as their piddling leadership contest proved, are dead but won't lie down. (It reminds me of the old joke about the Miss Marmont contest where no one won.) Press? Manning at least has the grace to acknowledge that he will step down from leadership at the stiller Reform going if the united alternative can come up with a Very Reform answer.

One should mention, in the middle of this mess, that mighty, rich Toronto is rather toothless in Ottawa despite its claim to be the centre of the universe. Ontario, despite its strength in Ontario MPs in Ottawa, doesn't have a single strong body in cabinet. Art Eggleton? Sheila Copps? Get serious. Allan Rock keeps getting caught in impossible portfolios.

The megaphone dispatch, Paul Martin, Kevin Michael who should be running in his own right of Windsor. The United-We-Right leader, emerging from that February conference, will probably be Stockedley, the handsome and terribly ambitious treasurer of Alberta. Or Stephen Harper, the bilingual thirty-something protégé of Manning, who is walking outside politics for the main chance.

The West will rise again.




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